

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 7th April, at Gimel, Switzerland, the wife of P. E. WALSHAM, H.I.M.'s Customs, of a son.
On the 19th April, at Eilandonan, the Peak, the wife of ANDREW FORBES, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 5th April, at Yokohama, AGNES LAURINA BEATRICE, daughter of DAVID ROSS, F.R.I., B.A., of New Zealand, to WILLIAM EDWARD LAXON SWEET, of Kumamoto, son of the late Rev. L. E. SWEET, of Bathford, England.

On the 5th April, at Tokyo, the Rev. JOHN THOMAS BRYAN, M.A., B.D., to LUCY SILVER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. SILVER HALL, of Tokyo.

On the 6th April, at Yokohama, FRANCIS JAMES HALL, fourth son of the Rev. T. O. HALL, of Stretton Rectory, Oakham, England, to BEATRICE MAUDE SUCKLING BARON, youngest daughter of the late Rev. W. J. BARON, of Withybrook Vicarage, Coventry, England.

On the 6th April, first at the British Consulate, Kobe, and afterwards at Osaka, by the Rev. G. Chapman, B.A., assisted by the Rev. V. H. Patrick, the Rev. SAMUEL HEASLETT, of Nagasaki, to HILDA SUSAN JACKSON, second daughter of FREDERICK J. JACKSON, of Southport, England.

On the 9th April, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. J. B. Ost, ARTHUR HENRY BROOKS, of Shanghai, to ELLA FORDER, of Winchester, England.

On the 11th April, at S. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Father Lorando, S.J., CHARLES JEDLIKA, of Reichenberg (Bohemia), to EMMA VAN DER STEEN, of Shanghai.

On the 11th April, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, AUSTIN RICHARD THISTLETHWAITE, to ALICE DOROTHEA ROBERTS, elder daughter of the late THOMAS CLARENCE ROBERTS and Mrs. ROBERTS, of Ferring, Worthing, England.

DEATHS.

On the 14th April, at Shanghai, ALAN, infant son of CHRISTIAN and MARGARET NIELSEN, of Vladivostok, aged 13 months.

On the 16th April, at Cheltenham, Major W. H. GRESSON.

On the 17th April, at No. 20, Fearon Road, MABIE CONSTANZE, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. JOSEPHSEN, aged 7 weeks.

On the 19th April, DAVID CURRIE, late of Greenock, Scotland, by Accident, at Quarry Bay, aged 35 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAIL.

The English Mail of the 25th March arrived per the s.s. *Chusan*, on Friday the 22nd inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

War telegrams have been very scarce this week. The principal news is to the effect that Admiral Alexieff has resigned his command. Reuter gives as the reason that he finds himself practically superseded except in civil affairs, and that the appointment of Admiral Skrydloff, who is notoriously hostile to him, was made without consulting him.

Admiral Makaroff's widow has been granted a pension of 20,000 roubles.

H.E. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is reported seriously ill and not expected to live.

It is stated that Japanese gold coins to the value of \$2,699,000 were exported to San Francisco by the steamship *China*.

S. Petersburg reports that there are only 600 yards between the Japanese outposts and the foremost Russian outposts on the islands in the Yalu.

According to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, S. Petersburg telegrams announce that the Russian troops are retiring to Moukden and Liaoyang.

Admiral Skrydloff has arrived at S. Petersburg before proceeding to the Far East. He received an extraordinary popular ovation, and conjured to save the honour of the Navy.

General Kuropatkin is stated, from S. Petersburg sources, to have now 300,000 men at his disposal. No more will be sent to him at present, the number being deemed sufficient.

During the next month a detachment will be sent from Hongkong to the North, to relieve time-expired men of the Tientsin Detachment. Of the details that arrived from the West on Sunday 152 were Sherwood Foresters.

According to an English missionary who arrived at Gensan from the north of Korea, there are indications that Koreans in the region lying to the north of Hamheung are organising with the purpose of opposing the Japanese.

Our Tientsin correspondent telegraphs under date 18th April:—The *Tsai-li* Society is increasing in a most threatening manner and is spreading in the neighbourhoods of Peking and Tientsin, as well as outside the Great Wall. Native Christians are growing alarmed. This *Tsai-li* Society has been notorious for its infamous murders of Roman Catholics, and it was also busy in prompting the "Boxers" in 1900.

On the 19th inst. the House of Lords adopted a resolution authorising the Tibet Expedition (or Mission). Since the arrival at Gyantse we have no further news.

From the particulars given in the Civil Service Estimates for the coming financial year we learn provision is made for new British Consuls at Moukden, Antung, and Kongmoon.

A writer in a paper just to hand points out that with Japan holding Port Arthur in strength, and England holding Wei-hai-wei in similar strength, the integrity of China would be assured in spite of all other Powers.

The *Shanghai Mercury* says that the *Changon-Ballaarat* arbitration case came to a close on the 14th inst. and in rendering the award it was held that both vessels were to blame, therefore both sides should pay half the costs.

Allegations appear to have been circulated as to a breach of neutrality by China this week. Nothing is known about it in Hongkong, which could hardly be the case were the story to be true. So far as we know, China has kept admirably cool.

The first consignments of building material for the new floating dock at Kiaochow have left Germany. The dock will consist of five separate pontoons, with a total loading capacity of 16,000 tons, and will be able to accommodate the largest battleships in the German Navy, as well as the big liners of the Hamburg and Bremen Steamship Companies.

It seems certain now that the threatened deportation from Tientsin of Mr. Cowen, editor of the *China Times*, has been abandoned. Mr. Cowen has resumed the editorship. The *Kobe Chronicle* makes the following comment: Though the accused in such a case does not seem to have any right of appeal under the Orders in Council, such a sentence must be reviewed by the Chief Justice, and only on his approval can it go into operation. Presumably the Chief Justice has not approved, and the matter will be allowed to drop. If our surmise is correct, the condition that such sentences passed by a Provincial Court must be reviewed by the Judge of the Supreme Court has proved a real safeguard to the freedom of the English Press in China.

The Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai has communicated the following statement to the Press in connection with the burning of the Palace at Seoul:—On the 14th inst. at 10 p.m. a fire broke out from the Kanneiden Building of the Korean Imperial Palace and all buildings except only one building of the foreign type were entirely burnt down. The Emperor had been taken himself to the Library belonging to the Imperial Household Department. The fire started accidentally in a chamber of the Kanneiden Building where the Kang (native fire-place) was being in repairs. During the conflagration our gendarmes and soldiers exerted their utmost for the personal safety of the Emperor and for controlling the fire. This deed of our soldiers has caused a very good feeling in the Imperial Household. The Foreign Ministers to Corea, too, expressed their thanks for the efforts used by our soldiers in protecting the Legations near the Palace.

CONDITIONS OF THE PRESENT WAR.

(Daily Press, 21st April.)

It is an old and trite saying, and one which under a pretence of sententiousness really covers a mere truism, that history repeats itself. As long as human nature is as it is, and as long as it is a law of nature that the race has a tendency to propagate itself at a rate greater than its means of support, so long must there exist an aggressive tendency on the part of nations; and this aggressive tendency must, when it implies injury to another nation possessed of courage and ability to resist, eventually lead to war. War again arising in each case from the same impelling motive must of necessity follow similar lines, and so it happens that whether we analyse the wars of a Sennacherib, of a Cyrus, an Alexander, a Caesar, or in modern times of a Napoleon, we find the same general principles of attack and defence running through the entirety. The circumstances of the present war between Japan and Russia thus partake geographically and physically of the conditions existing in 1854, when Great Britain and France, in order to parry the injurious advance of Russia, undertook an offensive war, and invaded the Crimea. The geographical position of the Crimea and Shengking are very similar; both are peninsulas, both are at an enormous distance from Russia's basis of operations, and both possess at the furthest extremity a capacious and strongly fortified naval station, to capture which is one of the objects of the war. It is perfectly natural, then, that the incidents in the one war should be comparable to those unfolding themselves in the other.

It is true that at the opening of the present war one of the conditions was markedly different. When Britain and France opened the war against Russia, their navies were so far superior in number and efficiency to that possessed by Russia that from the beginning the latter Power treated its own navy as of no practical utility, and actually sank in its own harbour seven of its best and most powerful vessels. At the opening of the war with Japan Russia had in Eastern waters a navy which for numbers, and apparently efficiency, was reckoned fairly comparable with that of her antagonist, and in addition, after this portion of the fleet had been despatched, possessed an apparently sufficient reserve in European waters. The first care of the Japanese commander-in-chief was thus of necessity directed to striking at this formidable difficulty in the way of offensive operations, and with so much success that for a time at least the Russian fleet became a mere onlooker, and, as in the case of the Crimea, took no active part in the contest. For some weeks this inactivity was real, and its existence raised one or two points of importance with regard to international law.

Some main principles concerning the rights of belligerents and the duties of neutrals have been reduced to writing and met with practically universal acceptance; and each of the principal nations for itself commenced to put these rules in action. After the close of the Crimean war the nations had proceeded to formulate a common course of action with regard to possible neutrals and belligerents, and the time, after one first-class war had been decided, and no political cloud momentarily clouded the horizon, was undoubtedly favourable. The new rule agreed to by all the important Powers, with the partial exception of the United States, was, that the neutral flag covered the cargo, except contraband of war, and that

an enemy's commerce as such was not to be interfered with more than was necessary for war purposes. Some nations wanted to go further and assert the immunity from capture of the enemy's private ships, when not actually engaged in warlike operations, or conveying contraband of war, but the majority refused to take this extreme view, or at all events held it to be premature. Other rules were proposed regarding letters of marque given by Governments authorising the fitting out of privateers, but the proposed rule was not carried. Other regulations regarding the action of neutrals in aiding or encouraging one or other belligerents, though in principle agreed to, were left to be decided in each particular case. Practically no naval war has taken place since these rules and recommendations were formulated, and naturally there was room for misconception, and an absence of precedent as to the proper course to pursue. England and the majority of the Great Powers at once issued proclamations of neutrality, and closed their ports unless in cases of distress, and even then under most stringent rules, indifferently to either belligerent. The practical effect of this was to render it impossible for Japan to carry on a naval war in European waters, or for Russia to reinforce her fleet in the Far East, till at least she had made her own arrangements for coaling on the road. In the interest of peace generally this was an important step, and tended to prevent as far as possible the spread of the war. Incidentally and at the moment it appeared to favour Japan, but at any time the position might change and the contrary might result. The conditions might then have been honestly accepted by both belligerents without prejudice, in the hope of further developments. Unfortunately Russia, looking only to the present moment, has not been willing to accept this view, but has put forward a claim of her own, which tends to complicate still further a position already intricate. By the Treaty of Paris each state at war has the right to seize on the enemy's property on board a neutral ship, provided only it be contraband of war, and as it seemed impracticable to define what really is contraband the widest possible extension has been given to the definition. Russia has been extending the limits so as to include everything which could be possibly brought into use directly or indirectly, not only to make war, but to assist in making machinery which might be employed in producing weapons of war or warlike weapons, and military stores or even clothing. Russian prize-courts being the only authority to decide. Of course, under such a pretension, every article of trade might be brought in contraband. This naturally was not the object of the original rule, which was to injure as little as possible the general trade of the world, and afford some little alleviation to the necessary horrors of war. So long as the stipulations as to neutral ports being forbidden to the ships of either of the parties at war, the former wrong would be to a considerable extent rectified, as either Power would from the impossibility of obtaining supplies find her limits of injury so far as neutrals were concerned confined within reasonably narrow limits. But the peculiarity of Russian practice is to take advantage of every circumstance which may favour her immediate aims without any regard for consistency, or the possible disadvantage of establishing precedents against herself. The rule which forbids nations at war carrying on warlike operations from neutral ports is one of these, and is probably more in the interests of the belligerents themselves than of the Powers apparently more immediately

concerned. Russia grudgingly accepts the rule with the stronger Powers who are able to enforce it, but she persistently ignores it with regard to the weaker, whom she hopes to be able to overawe or cajole. Now it is necessary, in order to avoid worse evils, to acknowledge every independent state as internationally equal, and though another neutral may remonstrate, there is no precedent to make such action a *casus belli* as between neutrals.

Russia then has been taking advantage of this position to use habitually the harbours of certain of the lesser Powers in the Mediterranean for the purpose of fitting out her cruisers, and obtaining stores, and the vessels thus fitted out have been employed in plundering the vessels of neutral Powers, under the pretence of seizing those indefinable goods which she is pleased on her own authority to class as contraband of war. The whole proceeding is naturally unprecedented, and as such offends no written rule, though contrary to the whole tenour of international law, as accepted by all the Powers. It might be expected that the nation most interested amongst the others, which undoubtedly is Britain would take some strong measures to redress a palpable wrong, which has no foundation in former precedents, and is contrary to the whole tone of modern practice; but here again comes in the peculiar difficulty which always arises with a Power as Russia, which sets but little store on her own inconsistency, while vigorously holding her neighbour to the letter of her engagements. Were Great Britain to insist under penalty of retaliation on Russia ceasing the practice the action would certainly be quoted against herself, and Britain would have to yield however unreasonable and irrelevant the cases. This is doubtless the reason why some steps have not as yet been taken to abate, by force if necessary, the nuisance, but there are signs, we believe, that something is being done towards its relief. Hongkong is more immediately interested, which is our excuse for speaking out; but the matter is really one of imperial interest.

UNREST IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 22nd April.)

Without paying too much attention to Chinese rumours or reports, it is always well to take note of what is circulating in native circles. Before the Boxer outbreak in 1900 numerous warnings were received, which were disregarded until it was practically too late, and scores of missionaries in various parts of North China had been massacred. There can be little doubt that the tardiness shown by the Powers in moving after the first of the outrages served to embolden the Boxers, and possibly encouraged some of the officials to join the movement for the extermination of foreigners in China. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the foreign Ministers will not be caught napping a second time. The Chinese Government is so utterly backboneless and its real disposition is so difficult to gauge accurately that it would be worse than folly to rely on any assurances the Waiwupu (the successor to the Tsung-li Yamen) could give. For some time to come the Treaty Powers will have to rely on their Legation guards for the protection of their representatives in the Chinese capital, and it should be the business of the Legations to keep as accurately informed as possible as to the temper of the populace and as to the conditions in the Palace, where intrigues are perpetually going on. It was reported

some weeks ago that there was a good deal of unrest in North China, but the statement then excited comparatively little attention. The progress of the war absorbed general interest, and it was not generally thought that any movement was probable at the present juncture, when it is obviously the policy of the Chinese Government to remain quiescent and maintain as strictly as possible that neutrality which has been solemnly declared between the belligerents. But it is always the unexpected that happens, and it is within the range of probability that the Boxers may imagine that the victories of the Japanese point the way to a similar success in their aims and endeavours. At any rate it would seem, according to the information telegraphed from Tientsin by our correspondent, that the Tsai-li Society is becoming alarmingly active. He states that this society is spreading in the metropolitan province as well as in Manchuria and outside the Great Wall. The native Christians are growing alarmed at the growth of the Tsai-li, which had so much to do in spreading the Boxer propaganda, and their fears are no doubt sufficiently well founded to call for some representations by the Diplomatic Body to the Chinese Government. It is to be hoped that the foreign Ministers will not leave the matter too long, for nothing is to be gained by delay, and the movement gains strength and numbers by immunity from official interference. It would not be asking too much from the Peking Government, if it were requested to take steps to suppress a society which has in such recent times shown itself so active for mischief, having actually involved China in hostilities with the Treaty Powers.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press 20th April.)

That absorbing question of the hour, the connection of Hongkong, through its hinterland, by rail with Canton and other towns of the Delta, has received a fresh impetus. The recent expeditions overland to Waichow have demonstrated very plainly that there is another way out of the New Territory than that selected by the projectors of the Kowloon-Canton Railway. They all report that there is a route over which it would be possible to lay a line of railway from the head of Mirs Bay to Waichow for a most modest outlay. This line would pass the town of Tamsui, through a fertile and populous district most of the way, and might, after crossing the East River, where, though broad, it is very shallow, bend westwards, following the banks of the waterway and, passing Shekloong, come to a terminus at Canton. This route would be practically devoid of all engineering difficulties except the construction of a bridge across the East River at Waichow. When we say this we do not allow for the connecting section from Kowloon to Mirs Bay. The latter portion might be made by the Colonial Government, and need not be anything like so costly as the projected line from Tsimsatsui to Shamchun. It would, we imagine, be possible to take the railway by a gentle rise to the 500-foot level and thence pierce the hills, coming out at Shatin. From thence to Taipo there are no serious obstacles to overcome, and from Taipo to Sangcheong would also prove an easy stretch. There would probably be little difficulty in securing a concession from the Chinese Govern-

ment to make the railway from Mirs Bay to Waichow and from that city to Canton. This Colony would then be connected with the capital of Kwangtung by railway and could afford to regard with equanimity the dilatory proceedings of the British-Chinese Corporation. The feeling is growing stronger daily that if we have to wait for this Company to commence work we may go on waiting, not only until some other connection between the City of Rams and the coast is established, but, having regard to the remarks of the Chairman at the annual meeting in London of the China Association, to a date almost as indefinite as the Greek Kalends. The matter is of far too great importance to be left to the whim, or the convenience, or the financial exigencies of any Company, however enterprising or influential, and we consider it is so vital a question that the Colonial Government should take it up in all earnestness and with a fixed determination to see it through. It is of course unfortunate that the concession to construct the Kowloon-Canton line should have been conferred upon a Company who either fear to invest capital in the enterprise or have been disappointed in the hope of obtaining a subsidy from Government towards the admittedly heavy cost of laying the line over a portion of the distance through the New Territory. But this fact ought not to be suffered to impair the prospects or check the progress of this important Colony, and action should be taken without further delay to save the situation. Sir HENRY BLAKE and Mr. JAMES SCOTT, the late Consul-General at Canton, both fully realised the importance of the question, and we believe Mr. MAX is equally earnest in endeavouring to bring the railway into the region of practical politics. The British Government has, however, as a matter of principle, laid it down that commercial enterprises such as the construction of railways in foreign states cannot be assisted by public moneys, and it has hitherto consistently refused to grant any such assistance to these undertakings. We trust, however, that in this instance an exception will be made, because of the exceptional circumstances existing. The railway so far as it runs on foreign soil requires no aid from Government, but the section bringing it through British territory presents such considerable engineering obstacles as must necessarily render this portion a costly work, and for the sake of encouraging effort and securing the communication the Colonial Government should be permitted either to guarantee the dividend on this section, to give it a subsidy, or to undertake the construction of the line itself. It must not be forgotten, in our natural indignation at the apparent apathy of the British concessionaries, that capitalists cannot be expected to make railways out of mere patriotism; there must also be a reasonable prospect of such an undertaking proving remunerative. It is for the colonists now to speak their minds definitely on this great and burning question. The annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce is advertised to be held on the 27th instant, on which occasion the Chairman usually reviews at more or less length the events of the commercial year. We trust that this question will receive all the prominence it merits, and that the Chamber, though of a more or less cosmopolitan character, will speak out in no uncertain terms. Time is running on, and 1904 seems likely to pass, like the previous five years, without any decisive action being taken on this momentous subject.

THE CHINA TEA-TRADE.

(Daily Press 19th April.)

We have written at various times in the past on the subject of the decline of the China tea-trade and the supplanting of the teas which at one time ruled the market by cheaper and stronger Indian and Ceylon products. With many others we regretted the decline of the more delicately flavoured leaf and watched with interest the efforts recently made to bring the Chinese article back into favour. In Mr. H. B. MORSE's report on the trade of China in 1903, issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs and noticed by us recently, there are some remarks on tea which are somewhat reassuring to those who feared that the complete victory of the Southern leaf was only a matter of time. Last year, it appears, tea showed the most considerable increase of all the exportable products of China, black and green leaf and brick alike sharing in the rise. Notwithstanding the generally inferior quality (the curse of the China tea-trade of late years and a great factor in its decline), prices ranged higher by five to ten Taels a picul than in 1902; and yet shipments of black tea increased by 9 per cent., of green by 19 per cent., and of brick by 8 per cent. Mr. MORSE points out that 126,903 piculs of the total export are statistically lost by shipment to Hongkong, for reshipment hence. But of the remaining black tea, shipments to Great Britain were more by nearly 32,000 piculs, and to the Continent of Europe by 3,400 piculs; shipments to the United States were less by 67,000 piculs, though the American demand was about the normal average. Green tea shipments to the United States increased by 17,700 piculs, and to other destinations by smaller amounts. Deliveries of black tea for consumption in Great Britain were approximately (in million lbs.) 10½ in 1901, 14½ in 1902, and 17½ in 1902—a very satisfactory advance. Mr. MORSE gives as the explanation of this increase, in face of the high silver cost prevailing in 1903, the reduced taxation on tea in China. The Indian export increased at the same time, he points out, by 15,000,000 lbs., but it was found impossible to reduce the cost of the lowest grades below sixpence a pound, while China Congous could be laid down at fourpence-halfpenny to fivepence a pound. "Further reduction in the cost of Indian leaf," he remarks, "would deprive China of her temporary advantage; and with the tangible proof of the benefit already derived from lowering the export duty, it is obvious that the next step to be taken is to reduce, or entirely abolish, the heavy inland taxation now imposed on the leaf before it reaches the foreign exporter; this, however, will not be done until the Chinese Revenue can recoup itself by the imposition of higher import duties."

But lowering the price will not alone suffice to re-establish the China tea-trade on a firm basis, and this Mr. MORSE recognises. Writing on this subject last year, we insisted on the advantages accruing to the Indian trade from the use of scientific methods of culture and preparation of the leaf and from the employment of extensive advertising. Now, it is improbable, Mr. MORSE thinks, that much good can be done by the whole-sale introduction of the methods which have been so successful in India—there is such a subdivision of plantations and so short a tea-season in China—but simple hand appliances, such as that for rolling, might well be adopted. And certainly the education of the grower might be assisted by the Tea Guilds. Education

has gained the southern growers the victory. With regard to advertising, the Chinese traders do not yet realise its necessity. "In this," says Mr. MORSE, "they must accept the experience of others." The difficulty is to make them do so, but the nearly complete ruin of the China tea-trade with abroad ought to appeal to their intelligences. It would be well if they could be induced to take as their text the remarks with which Mr. MORSE closes this section of his Report. He says:—"Foreign tea-buyers can buy in India or in China, as they may find the most advantage; but the Chinese must trade in China, and, if they wish to preserve the remains of their dwindling trade, they must tax themselves as the Indian planters have done. On the one hand, they must teach the grower how, with little or no expenditure of money, but merely by greater care and improved methods, he may produce a better tea at the same cost, or the same tea at a less cost; on the other hand, they must consult and work in co-operation with the foreign buyers, and advertise. The Chinese tea-traders can save the Chinese tea-trade, and no one else can."

HONGKONG JOTTING.

(Daily Press 18th April.)

Speculations about the date of the arrival of our new Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, in Hongkong have been set at rest during the past week by the announcement from the Colonial Secretary's Office that, according to present arrangements, he will start for Hongkong from England in July. He should therefore be here in August, missing the two worst months of our year—June and July. His arrival, I believe, will make little difference in the number of acting appointments in the Colony, though H.E. Mr. F. H. May will once more become the Hon. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary. There will still be enough deputies at the head of Government Departments to make Mr. Alleyne Ireland weep.

One or two paragraphs have appeared in the *Daily Press* during the past week on the subject of the scale of payment for the hire of street coolies in Hongkong. The legal scale as given in the *Directory* is as follows:—One day, 33 cents; half day, 20 cents; three hours, 12 cents; one hour, 5 cents; half hour, 3 cents. This scale was fixed as far back as 1871, under an ordinance passed in 1858. Friday's *Daily Press* contained the statement that the section in the ordinance relating to this question was repealed by Ordinance 13 of 1888. That is perfectly true, but it does not follow that this scale of hire for street coolies ceased to have any legal force. Section V. of the Ordinance of 1888 states "All Regulations published under any Ordinance repealed by this Ordinance are hereby continued in force until the same shall be revoked." I am unable to discover that the regulation now in question has been revoked, and in that case the legal payment for the hire of street-coolies remains the same as it was in 1871. It is superfluous to add that no employer of coolie labour will get men for the money. The average pay, I believe, is above 60 cents a day, and any attempt to enforce the Government's obsolete regulation would be certain to prove abortive. I notice by the way that since 1871 the legal scale for cargo-boats has been more than trebled. It would interest many to know precisely what considerations weigh with the Government in determining the rate of increase. If the exchange value of the dollar were taken as the determining factor, the present scale for cargo-boats shows an increase disproportionate to the fall of the dollar, while if the rate of payment for street-coolies had been increased in proportion to the fall of the dollar, the present rate of pay would be over a dollar a day! It cannot be argued, however, that the cost of living to the coolie in Hongkong has trebled, or even doubled, since 1871, and 40 to 50 cents a day may be regarded as a fair average rate of pay.

Can anyone give me, or through me the public, information as to what has been done towards securing the counterfeit presentment of Sir Thomas Jackson in bronze? Has the order for the statue been given, to what sculptor, and when is it likely to reach Hongkong? Also, where is it intended to erect this memorial of our leading citizen and famous banker?

I should also like to know for how long the Duke of Connaught is to be condemned to remain in his present unsavoury surroundings. The gallant Inspector-General of the Forces would hardly feel complimented were he to see his effigy's present position. There was surely no necessity to crowd him up in the manner the Law Courts contractor has done. The contractor has been suffered to luxuriate in a most unwonted abundance of space, and I think he should have been compelled to preserve a seemly and neat surrounding to the statue, the enclosure of which is now full of rank weeds and accumulated dirt. The want of respect shown by Chinese to distinguished personages is notorious, but I wonder that the Government should permit the statue of His Majesty's brother to be so needlessly relegated to the obscurity of a builder's rubbish yard.

The footpaths in Victoria are for the most part distinctly good, but, curiously enough, the exceptions are in the most ornamental part of the city. I refer to the concrete paths in the oblong space—it would be a Plaza or Place in some cities—in which the Queen's Statue occupies the central position. These paths are made of granite chips, from which the lime concrete has worn away, leaving a hard and uneven surface, destructive to shoe-leather and ungenious to corns. It is infinitely more uncomfortable to walk on than the "petrified kidneys" common in some English cities thirty or forty years ago, and is really trying to ladies who wear thin-soled shoes or boots. It would not cost much to give these paths a cement surface, and it would certainly be a boon to pedestrians. Will the Commissioner of Roads and Bridges—or the official who represents that department—please take careful note?

The enquiry which is at present being held into the industries of the New Territory should provide some good reading. I believe those industries consist chiefly of sugar-mills, brick-kilns, lime-burning factories, and rice-mills. On the ordinary routes in the Territory the European does not see much evidence of industrial activity, but there is really a great deal of it to be witnessed by the man who goes off the beaten tracks, these mills and factories being situated in most unlikely places.

BANYAN.

WAR NOTES.

FROM SHANGHAI.

We take the following telegrams from the *N.-C. Daily News*:

"Tokyo, 16th April.—The opinion prevails in enlightened circles in Tokyo that the war may not continue as long as was originally expected. The Japanese amply appreciate the significance of the Anglo-French Agreement."

"Tokyo, 16th April.—It is officially announced that the Japanese commenced the action on the 11th instant, opening the eighth attack. At midnight on the 12th the Japanese destroyers sank one Russian destroyer, but missed another. The *Petropavlovsk* was blown up by striking a mechanical mine laid by the Japanese prior to the attack. The Japanese reopened the attack on the afternoon of the 14th and continued it until 1.30 in the afternoon of the 15th. The new cruisers *Nisshin* and *Kasuga* made an indirect bombardment for two hours of Electric Hill, and found their guns satisfactory. The only Japanese loss was two men slightly wounded. Though the fleet during the successive engagements was manœuvring amidst the enemy's mines, they suffered no damage."

"Tokyo, 17th April.—The vessels that took part in the engagement at Port Arthur on the 13th and 14th instant were the ironclads *Mikasa*, *Hatsuse*, *Asahi*, *Shikishima*, *Fuji*, and *Yashima*; the armoured cruisers *Nisshin* and *Kasuga*; the protected cruisers *Takasago*

Kasagi, *Chitose*, and *Yoshino*; twelve destroyers and four torpedo-boats. Dismayed at the disastrous sinking of the *Petropavlovsk*, the other Russian vessels were extremely confused and fired indiscriminately into the water for the purpose of avoiding a torpedo-attack. The Japanese believe that the Port Arthur squadron can now be no longer considered a fleet in being. The people in Japan are marvellously calm."

"Peking, 15th April.—Russia has established a military telephone between Port Arthur and St. Petersburg, with six exchanging stations. Smallpox is prevalent in the Russian camp at Liaoyang; there are a hundred or more cases daily among the Russian troops."

FROM JAPAN.

According to a Tokyo correspondent there are now 200,000 Russian troops in Manchuria. The centre of concentration is Liaoyang, but there are about 10,000 Russians on the right (or north) bank of the Yalu.

Possiet Bay has acquired special importance in Russian eyes as a point of concentration for forces destined to oppose any advance by a Japanese army across the Tumen towards Vladivostok. The troops said to be assembled there at present total 6,450 of all arms, namely:—Two regiments of the East Siberia Rifles, 4,000; two batteries of field artillery, 600; one battery of garrison artillery, 300; one battery of garrison artillery, 300; one detachment of torpedo troops, 200; Total, 6,400.

The total cost of the vessels which were destroyed in the attempts to block the entrance to Port Arthur amounted to 1,241,800 yen. This amount is made up the following figures:—

Vessels sunk in the first attempt:—

<i>Bushu-maru</i>	yen 75,000
<i>Buyo-maru</i>	90,000
<i>Hokoku-maru</i>	91,800
<i>Jinsen-maru</i>	100,000
<i>Tenshin-maru</i>	267,000

Total yen 623,800

Vessels sunk in the second attempt:—

<i>Fukui-maru</i>	yen 124,000
<i>Yoneyama-maru</i>	130,000
<i>Yahiko-maru</i>	201,000
<i>Chiyo-maru</i>	163,000

Total yen 618,000

FROM VLADIVOSTOK TO SHANGHAI.

Three foreigners have arrived at Shanghai from Vladivostok, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, travelling by way of Harbin, Moukden, and Newchwang, under special passes from the Russian military authorities. They were at Vladivostok during the bombardment, and they confirm the statement that has already appeared in our columns that the civilians in Vladivostok knew nothing of Admiral Kamimura's attack. They heard some gun-firing a long way off, but paid no attention to it. The three foreigners came, of course, by train to Newchwang, the train going so slowly that they could walk alongside it when they wanted exercise; and they had constantly to stop to allow trains full of soldiers to pass them. There were no broken bridges on the line, which is most carefully guarded. At Vladivostok itself, the cost of living has only gone up twenty-five per cent, but there is no abundance of provisions there, or along the railway. At Moukden, Viceroy Alexieff was living in his railway car, not, as has been suggested, that he might escape readily if flight became necessary, but because there are no houses there available fit to live in, and the whole city is at least a foot deep in mud. One train was passed on the way which was conveying wounded to the rear, but otherwise there were not many signs of active warfare which the three foreigners were allowed to see, though they were treated everywhere, when they showed their passes, with great courtesy. The journey was naturally a protracted one, and the three travellers were not sorry to reach the Bund at Shanghai at last.

THE YALU SKIRMISH.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* gives, under date the 13th April, the following details of the fighting at the Yalu mouth on the 10th inst.:—Rear-Admiral Hosoya reports that Commander Kaomin was dispatched with one lieutenant and five sailors on board a Korean fishing-boat to reconnoitre the mouth of the Yalu. On the afternoon of the

10th instant they sighted seven Russia cavalrymen on board a Chinese fishing-boat, acting in conjunction with some cavalry scouts on shore. They exchanged fire, and though the Russians were reinforced by over a dozen men, they retreated, chased by the Japanese. The engagement lasted an hour and twenty minutes. One Russian was killed and two wounded. The Japanese had no loss. A military official and nine disguised Russians attempted a landing on the 10th inst. nearly a mile southwest of Yungampho. Some Japanese cavalry co-operating with the navy tried vainly to capture them. Simultaneously twenty or thirty Russians were sighted on the delta of the Yalu and taken disguised. The enemy made other unsuccessful attempts to cross the river between Yungampho and Wiju. On the morning of the 12th inst., thirty or forty Russian infantry tried to cross the river to the west of Wiju. A section of Japanese infantry encountered the enemy, who retired leaving one officer and 21 men dead. The Japanese had no losses. The enemy belonged to the 12th regiment of Rifles.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 19th inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL VILLIERS HATTON, C.B. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY (Attorney-General).

Hon. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Captain L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. P. N. H. JONES (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, K. C.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

NEW MEMBER.

Hon. P. N. H. Jones, Acting Director of Public Works, took the oath and assumed his seat as a member of Council.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 21 to 23) and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 4), and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

PAPERS.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the following sessional papers:—Report of the Director of Public Works for the year 1903, tropical diseases research, financial returns for the year 1903, returns of the Subordinate Court for the year 1903, report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the Colony of Hongkong for the year 1903, and Blue Book for the year 1903.

NOTICE OF QUESTIONS.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Your Excellency, I beg to give notice that I shall ask certain questions at next meeting of Council of which I gave notice on Friday last. I understand the Government is not prepared to answer these questions now. I beg to give notice that I shall ask them at next meeting.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The clerk has the questions?

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Yes.

EMPLOYMENT OF PILOTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for and regulate the Employment of Pilots. He said—The object of this Bill is to

provide for the exercising of control over persons who practise as pilots in the waters of the Colony. There is at present, I understand, a so-called pilot service, but the men who ply for hire as pilots are not licensed or qualified in the sense of having passed under examination or had the approval of any person competent to say whether the man offering his services as a pilot knows anything of what he undertakes to do. In one sense it may be said that a place like this does not require pilots; the navigation is open, and there is no need to have pilots to bring ships into Hongkong or take them out. But apparently the Harbour is so extremely crowded and the difficulties of finding berths so considerable, that the Government has been approached by the shipping community and asked to provide some safeguard that persons who offer themselves for pilots within the waters of the Colony shall know what to do. That application was considered, with the result that this Bill has been brought in. There is no compulsion for anyone to take a pilot, nor will taking a pilot exempt the ship that takes him from any consequences that may occur from collision or otherwise. Government accepts absolutely no responsibility in the matter. People are free to take a pilot or not as they please. What the Government wants to do is to see that no one shall offer his services as a pilot who is not reasonably considered to be capable of performing the duties of a pilot. I think, that the measure which is a new one, will be found useful in its application.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into committee on the Bill and considered it clause by clause, only a few minor amendments being made.

On the Council resuming, the Bill was read a third time and passed on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

HILL RESERVATION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Reservation of a Residential Area in the Hill District. He said:—Sir, the necessity for this measure and the expediency of passing such a measure is, I think, very clearly if succinctly stated in the objects and reasons appended to the Ordinance itself. It will be found stated there that "The reservation of this district is desirable in order that a healthy place of residence may be preserved for all those who are accustomed to a temperate climate and to whom life in the tropics presents the disadvantage of an unnatural environment." Of course, it is known to everyone that all persons of European birth and extraction are liable to suffer and do suffer more or less when they are obliged to live continuously under conditions of temperature and environment which are to them unnatural—conditions of life such as are to be found in all tropical countries, and which are at all times trying to those who are forced to live in the lower levels of tropical places. But that inconvenience and that danger which exists everywhere is accentuated in this island of Hongkong by the necessity, arising from a restricted area, which compels the dense population to live together closely crowded. It is unavoidable as far as I can see that the lower levels should be under this unenviable necessity, which is due to the fact of the restricted area in which thousands have to live where there is only room for hundreds. Now this fact is due to this other fact: that the continued influx of Chinese into Hongkong is enormous, attracted here as they are by the fact that they possess security to life and property to a greater extent than can be obtained elsewhere in this part of the East. Well, Sir, we welcome the Chinese who like to come here, and we put no limit upon their numbers. Consequently it is not possible to reserve within the limits below the line which is ordinarily known as the 700 feet contour any area within which the conditions of healthy life can be found as a rule. We want as many people to come here and live and trade and promote the prosperity of themselves and the country as choose to come. We, at the same time, wish and everyone, I think, in this honourable council, or outside of it, wishes to preserve as area capable of being inhabited without that close crowding which in all countries

is detrimental, but especially so in a tropical country, as this one is. This crowding in goes on every day, and will continue to go on. The vast majority of the people who come here—of Chinese people, have never lived on the upper levels therefore the Government in casting about for an area that is suitable for a reservation have determined on a locality which has never hitherto been occupied by Chinese. We propose by this Bill to reserve an area within the Peak District which shall be free from the speculative builder, because as the pressure goes on from year to year it may come to pass that houses that have not so far existed there—may in future find their way to the Peak. It may be that the speculator instead of going over to Kowloon side would go up to the Peak, and conditions would be created that would introduce the conditions that are so undesirable, and which now exist below. Therefore, I say that those who support the proposition that it is desirable, if possible, that an area such as I have referred to should be reserved will, no doubt, say that the best place to choose is the place we have chosen; that is, the Peak District. The Government has therefore decided to ask the Council to pass this Bill. It will be observed that clause 5 enables the Governor in Council to exempt any Chinese from the operation of the ordinance. I move that this Bill be now read a second time.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.
The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Sir, the Bill, the second reading of which has been just moved, has a decided savour of the nature of class legislation, and especially against the Chinese, and, as such, it should be my duty to oppose it in as strong a manner as possible; but, at the same time, Sir, I have had the reasons carefully explained to me for the necessity of such a Bill. I have considered these reasons very carefully and I must say, personally, I am quite convinced of the reasonableness and expediency of such a measure. The reason put forward was the limited space for the accommodation of Europeans at the Peak, and it was also necessary for the health reasons to live at a height of some hundreds of feet from the level of the sea, not only for their own health, but that of their families and children, especially the children. Having considered that carefully, I for myself certainly think a concession from the Chinese would not only be graceful but justifiable, and I as a member of the Chinese community, and I believe my colleague also, agreed to offer no opposition to this Bill, but will be glad to consent to a measure by which we know the health and happiness of a large section of the European community will be promoted—the section upon which the prosperity and well being of this Colony so much depends, and by yielding them the principle of this Bill we are really promoting not only their welfare, but the welfare of the whole of this Colony. So far then, we do not propose to offer any opposition to this Bill, but as I am here representing the Chinese—the Chinese community, of course, have something to say to this Bill. In order to ascertain their views—those of the leading members only—manifestly it is impossible for us or for the Government even to ascertain the views of the Chinese in general, nor do I think it is imperative or necessary to do so—the leading Chinese have held a series of meetings to consider the Bill, and to sum up, shortly, the result of it I wish to put it that the majority have, after three meetings, instructed us, or let us know by resolution, that they would not oppose this Bill because they had had the reasons explained to them and they think, I suppose, the reasons were sufficient; but at the same time unanimously have requested the Government to be so good as to alter somewhat the phraseology of the Bill. In Committee I hope I will be able to lay before the Council some suggestions as to the alteration of the Bill which, if found by the Council not objectionable and quite as effective in carrying out the principle of Bill, I hope every member of this Council will consent to unless they can point out a good reason for coming to any conclusion otherwise, for the sake of unity and to satisfy the Chinese also who have so far granted this concession. There was a minority in these meetings who are not

compromising anyone, but who are dead against the principle of this Bill, and on no account would support a Bill of this kind; but, as I say as the majority have expressed their willingness to fall in with the principle of the Bill should certain terms of the Bill be altered. I think my colleague and myself will be justified in offering no opposition to this Bill. In Committee I hope a fair hearing shall be afforded me, and if what I propose as an amendment meet with the approval of the Council I hope that a change in the phraseology will be conceded. With these few remarks I do not offer any opposition.

Hon. WEI YUK—Sir, I beg to say I quite agree with what my senior colleague has been saying, and I beg to support what he has said already in his speech.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Your Excellency, I have very much pleasure now in supporting this Bill and perhaps as I was one of the gentlemen who were approached in connection with the drafting of the petition from owners of property at the Peak, the petition upon which the present Bill is founded, I may state, Sir, that there was no intention at all on the part of the movers in this of introducing anything in the way of class legislation against the Chinese. The grounds upon which we moved were simply and solely the question of the public health. We recognised, as the hon. and learned Attorney-General has pointed out, that it was imperative in this Colony, under the tropical and somewhat unnatural conditions under which we live here, that there should be some reservation on the higher levels for Europeans and their wives and families. I think, Sir, that those members of this Council who have been here like myself during the past 16 or 17 years will realise how much the Peak has been developed since the tramway went up there. You, sir, will no doubt remember that before the Peak Tramway was opened—which was as long ago as May, 1888—there were only a very few houses up at the Peak, and apart from the few at Magazine Gap which were lived in all the year round, those few who lived on what we may call the Peak proper never lived there except in the summer, but came down in the winter. Since the tram has come all that has been altered. There has been what may be termed a regular rush of non-Chinese up to the Peak until at the present day, as it is well known, the sites which are available for fresh houses to be built at the Peak, especially in view of the land which has very properly been reserved, is very limited indeed. Therefore I think the hon. and learned Attorney-General might have spoken even more strongly than he did, for not merely is it undesirable that there should be any rush up to the Peak, but one may see that in the course of a few years' time it would be a very difficult thing indeed for Europeans at the Peak to obtain any fresh sites. As I have said, there has been a regular rush of Europeans up to the Peak. What is the case with regard to the Chinese? Although the tram was opened some 16 years ago we find now that not a single Chinaman except the class of domestic servants, etc., exempted under this Bill is living at the Peak. That is a very good proof indeed that the Chinese gentlemen have never felt during the last 16 years any desire to live up at the Peak. Therefore, Sir, I think it is quite clear that there will be no hardship at all in enacting such a measure as this, and I think it is absolutely imperative in the interests of those who suffer from the hot climate that they should have this sanatorium to go to, and therefore I have very much pleasure in supporting this Bill.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—Gentlemen, I have listened to the speech of the hon. senior member for the Chinese with a great deal of interest, and it affords me a great deal of gratification to find that both he and his colleague are able to support this Bill. When I received the petition asking for this legislation I recognised that it was a somewhat delicate subject, that legislation of this kind might perhaps bear the appearance of what has been called class legislation. But knowing the Chinese community well, having had many years' experience of them, I relied upon their sound practical common-sense when I authorised the introduction of this legislation. I felt convinced that when the matter was thoroughly explained to them they would, as the majority

of them appear to do, recognise that it is in the interests of this Colony as a whole that the European section of it should enjoy a healthy area where they and their wives and their families can reside. I need not dwell upon the point, but I may be allowed to remark that all of us here are workers. There are no idle drones in this Colony, and a man will work better, for himself first no doubt, but after all in the interests of the Colony in the long run, when he himself and, if married, his wife and family, are in good health. It also enables Europeans to keep their families in the Colony instead of undergoing the expense and the anxiety of a separation which would be necessitated and was necessitated in the past before they found this area at the Peak where one enjoys a more or less temperate climate. The hon. senior member for the Chinese has mentioned that there is a minority who still do not view this Bill with favour. Well, I would only remind that minority of the various Statutes on the Statute Book by which privileges are accorded to the Chinese community that are not accorded to the European community. I would remind them of the constant endeavour of this Government, supported by the willing co-operation of the members of this Council, and the constant efforts made for the welfare of the Chinese community. One of the last Ordinances we passed was a Bill by which this Council amended the law relating to cubicles. Now the cubicle is a thing that touches the Chinese community very nearly, and we have been advised by our sanitary advisers not to have any cubicles at all in Chinese tenement-houses; but this hon. Council, recognising that to enforce such a law in its entirety would entail great hardship on the community, modified it by allowing a certain number of cubicles as a minimum in each house. I simply mention that as an indication of concessions made by the Government, supported by this Council, in the interests of the Chinese community as a whole, and therefore in the interests of this Colony as a whole. The hon. senior Chinese member has indicated that he has certain amendments to move in committee, and all I can say is I have no doubt they will receive the very earnest consideration of this Council; and if we can meet his wishes in any way it will afford us a great deal of pleasure to do so. (Applause.)

The second reading was carried, and the Council went into Committee on the Bill.

Section 3 was as follows:—After the passing of this Ordinance the Hill District shall be reserved as a place of residence for persons other than Chinese, and no Chinese shall, except as hereinafter provided, reside within the limits of the said District.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI proposed that this be deleted and that there be substituted for it a clause to the effect that after the passing of the Ordinance, and subject to all previous reservations, it shall be lawful for Chinese to reside in any locality below the 788 feet contour, and, with the consent of the Governor in Council, but not otherwise, in any locality within the Peak district. There were many Chinese, he said, who objected to the wording of the clause. In this proposed amendment of his the principle of the Bill was retained and there could be no reasonable offence in its wording. The old reservations were excepted and the consent of the Governor in Council was necessary. He did not think there could be any objection to the substitution.

HIS EXCELLENCY said he did not know that the Government would go so far as to allow Chinese to live anywhere beyond the other reservations; still more reservations might become necessary as the Colony developed.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI argued that in that case the new laws would annul this one.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that what Dr. Ho Kai proposed was exactly what the Bill provided: it was a distinction without a difference. If the purpose of the Bill could be served there was no necessity to insist upon any particular form of words. He proposed to strike out clause 3 and make some alteration in clause 4, which would have the same effect. He moved that

these clauses be struck out and the following substituted as clause 3:—It shall not be lawful (save in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance) for any owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of any land or building within the Hill District to let such land or building or any part thereof for the purpose of residence by any but non-Chinese or to permit any but non-Chinese to reside on or in such land or building.

This was agreed to.

Clause 5 was allowed to stand as follows:—It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to exempt any Chinese from the operation of this Ordinance on such terms as the Governor-in-Council shall think fit.

Constructional Amendments proposed by the Attorney-General were made in various clauses. When the Council resumed,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he desired to postpone the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 8 of 1882 entitled "The Banishment and Conditional Pardons Ordinance, 1882." This was agreed to.

The Council adjourned till next Tuesday.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council—the Acting Colonial Secretary (Hon. A. M. Thomson) presiding.

The following votes were passed:—

TROPICAL DISEASES.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,200 (at $\frac{1}{2}$ = £100) in aid of the vote Miscellaneous Services, being a contribution for the purpose of continuing the investigation of tropical diseases.

P.W.D. EMOLUMENTS.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$4,198.90 in aid of the vote Public Works Department under Personal Emoluments and Other Charges, for the following items:—

PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS.

Executive Engineer at £40 per month,	
(42 days' half pay from 2nd April,	
1904, to 13th May, 1904). =	£27.14.5
(Full pay from 14th May, 1904, to 31st	
December, 1904). =	303. 4.7
	<hr/>
	£330.19.0 at $\frac{1}{2}$ = \$3,971.40

OTHER CHARGES. CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCES.

Executive Engineer from 14th May, 1904,	
to 31st December, 1904, at \$30 per	
month =	227.50
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$4,198.90

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$13,700 in aid of the vote, Public Works Recurrent and Extraordinary, for the following items:—

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT

Maintenance of public cemetery ...	\$4,500
Maintenance of Praya wall and	
piers	7,200
	<hr/>
	\$11,700

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

New Territory survey	\$2,000
	<hr/>
Total,	\$13,700

This was all the business.

The members of the French Mission to follow the operations with the Russian General Staff have been selected. At its head will be General Sylvestre, commanding a brigade at Paris, and formerly orderly officer to the President of the Republic. The General will very probably be accompanied by two officers, a major of artillery and a captain of infantry, as well as Lieutenant de Caverville, Naval Attaché at St. Petersburg. The head of the French Mission on the Japanese side will be Colonel Lombard, up to now commanding a regiment of the brigade of occupation of Tientsin. It will also include Major Corvisart and Naval Lieutenant Martinie, the French Attachés at Tokyo.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 21st inst., in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. P. N. Jones (Vice-President), Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Mr. F. J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police; Mr. Fung Wa Chun; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. A. Rumjahn; Mr. E. A. Hewett; Dr. W. W. Pearse, Medical Officer of Health; Dr. B. Barnett, Assistant Medical Officer of Health; and Mr. T. A. Hamner (Assistant Secretary).

SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The report of the Sanitary Surveyor (Mr. H. T. Jackman) for the first quarter of 1904 showed that plans had been passed for the drainage of 104 houses, and plans for 211 houses were carried forward from 1903, making a total of 315 in hand during the quarter. The drainage of 40 houses had been completed, leaving 275 to carry forward. Notices for repairs and alterations to the drains of 46 houses had been received, and 58 were carried forward from 1903, making a total of 104 in hand. Of these 5 had been completed. Certificates had been granted for 38 new houses under Sect. 84 of Ordinance 13 of 1901. The drains of 4,460 houses had been inspected by the inspectors, and 448 minor nuisances had been discovered; in each case a notice had been served. 82 nuisances had been reported to the M.O.H. and 88 to the D.P.W. 255 choked drain-traps on private property had been cleansed by the inspectors.

Hon. Mr. Pollock:—The item of 255 choked drain-traps on private property is rather disquieting.

The Acting D.P.W.:—Is this not above the usual average?

The PRESIDENT, in answer to Mr. Pollock's question, said that this figure was below the average. In the corresponding quarter of last year there were 792 choked drains. The figures for the whole year were 1,705.

SCAVENGING.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to the advisability of the contractor increasing the number of scavenging coolies for Nos. 1 and 2 Health Districts.

The PRESIDENT explained that the Medical Officer of Health recommended that the number of coolies employed by the contractor be increased by 30. It appeared that the contractor had not been doing the work satisfactorily in this part of the town. The surface of the streets had not been properly cleaned, especially the roads on the higher levels. The senior inspector reported that he thought 30 more would be required.

Mr. BADELEY—The contractor pays?

The PRESIDENT—Yes. He moved that the contractor be requested to employ additional 30 coolies—20 for No. 1 District and 10 for No. 2.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

Further correspondence was submitted dealing with the abolition of intercepting traps in connection with the drainage system.

The PRESIDENT stated this correspondence had reference to the question of omitting intercepting traps in a given quarter of the town. It appeared that there was some doubt as to whether the Board had sufficient powers under the bye-laws to leave out these traps. He suggested that the M.O.H. be instructed to confer with the D.P.W. in order to ascertain how far the Board had or had not sufficient powers under the present Bill, and if necessary to consult the Crown solicitor.

Mr. RUMJAHN—And if it is found we have not, to ask the Government to give us powers?

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

The motion was agreed to.

ISSUE OF LICENCES.

A great number of applications for licences for the sale of fish, pork, etc., and for laundries, bake-houses, etc., were considered and disposed of.

The PRESIDENT remarked that at a previous meeting Mr. Hewett had drawn attention to the fact that it was rather strange that such

licences should not have been renewed by this time of the year. It had occurred to him that it might be preferable to send these people notices pointing out that they had not applied for a renewal for 1904 and that unless they did so within two weeks from the service of the notices legal proceedings would be instituted against them.

Mr. Hewett remarked that it was necessary that such notices should be sent out. Still it was strange that a quarter of the year should be allowed to pass without these licences being renewed. He suggested that in future notices be sent out about the middle of December and the licences be renewed by the middle of January.

Dr. Pearse stated that practically all licencees had been warned at the end of last year that renewal was necessary.

The President's proposal was agreed to

LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing returns for the fortnight ended 12th April showed that 2,863 houses in the Eastern and 960 in the Central District had been dealt with. There were 46 prosecutions in the Eastern District and 8474 was recovered in fines.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted:—There should be a fixed standard as regards the work required to be carried out. If, as at present, the Board's officers are allowed to pass the work done, each according to his own temperament and interpretation of the law, there will be no end of prosecutions. As I have previously pointed out to the satisfaction of the Board, it is too vague an expression, and it is not fair to let the house-owners, who are perfectly willing to do the needful, grope about to find out what the Board actually wants.

Mr. Rumjahn—These prosecutions, 46 in all and 40 odd the previous fortnight, should be avoided. The Board is not a persecution Board. The less we exasperate the public, the greater the co-operation the Board would be able to enlist from them in furthering our object. If owners of property were only told that their premises had not been limewashed satisfactorily (satisfactorily to the inspector!), they would cheerfully do the work again rather than be prosecuted.

The PRESIDENT said that before prosecutions were instituted it was always the custom to send written notices from that office—to the owner of the premises, he took it.

Mr. RUMJAHN thought many prosecutions had been instituted without notices having been served.

Dr. PEARSE was afraid they could not get on without prosecution altogether, though they did their best to do so. With regard to Mr. Lau Chu Pak's minute, he did not think the standard of limewashing required by the senior inspectors varied very much. Certainly there was not much room for variation in the interpretation of the law.

Mr. RUMJAHN contended that the most objectionable feature in the bye-laws was the word "satisfactorily." The inspector in charge of a district had the prerogative to prosecute anybody for a house which had been already limewashed, because he was not expected to say whether it was satisfactory to the Board or not, but used his own discretion. Sometimes perhaps his discretion was right, but he knew as a matter of fact of a case where a person had been prosecuted and fined for failing to limewash after he had actually limewashed a house, this being due to the length of time that elapsed between the limewashing and the inspector's visit.

Mr. HEWETT said these notices should show in what respect the limewashing had not been sufficiently carried out.

Dr. PEARSE explained that the senior inspectors had been instructed to indicate shortly in what sense the work was insufficiently done—such as "it was patchy" or "the kitchen was not done properly."

Mr. RUMJAHN asked if they were to understand that no prosecutions would be instituted in future unless notice had been served?

Dr. BARNETT said he had authorised a few prosecutions against people who had neither limewashed nor sent in notices.

Dr. PEARSE remarked that it was better not to bind themselves down to sending notices to people. There were cases in which it was

necessary to prosecute,—habitual offenders, for instance.

The PRESIDENT added that this matter must be left to the discretion of the Medical Officers of Health. The Board could not lay down any hard and fast rule. The work would be done in a more uniform way if they had one inspector to undertake the whole of the work.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN suggested that they might ask the Government to empower them to get one contractor to do the work as they had previously agreed to recommend.

The PRESIDENT said the Acting Governor could not agree to that recommendation of the Board. As far as possible, he added, notices would be sent out in future.

The discussion then ended.

RATS.

The rat return showed that during fortnight ended 18th April 1,109 rats had been caught; of these 16 were infected.

This was all the business.

JAPAN DURING THE WAR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

RUSSIA'S POSITION.

Tokyo, 4th April.

The very rigorous censorship that is exercised here makes it a matter of the greatest difficulty to formulate a satisfactory report, but from letters that have been received from the Front I am enabled to gather the following particulars as to the present disposition of the Russian forces. It would seem the Russians have established cavalry posts right along the coast between the mouth of the Yalu and the town of Takushan to the west, whilst forts have been erected on all the hills between Antung and Kiuliencheng, with parapets and palisades the whole distance. There is said to be an Army Corps in Antung itself—that is to say, thirty thousand men. This place has evidently been made the base for preparations in the Yalu district, and the Russians are determined to dispute the passage of the river to the uttermost of their power. To this end they are not only taking the measures above described, but are also keeping touch with the Japanese advance movement. This explains the presence of the six hundred Russian troopers in Chongju who were repulsed in the skirmish last week—the first encounter on land so far. Chongju is seventy miles from Wiju, and the Japanese will probably meet with a good deal of opposition en route. There are rumours that there are hardly any troops on the road leading to Wiju, but it is difficult to believe the Russians would neglect the first means of defence in this manner. Accounts of the number of soldiers in Antung differ, but the general opinion here is that the figures given above are correct. Of course if one could only tell what the Russian front is, and how much the Japanese have extended their advance, it would be possible to take a much more intelligent view of the case; as it is, one can only conjecture. Some say the Russian outposts are as far up the Yalu as the town of Chosan, 187 miles from Wiju, others indicate Chongsang as the point of greatest extension, 70 miles. The latter report is probably correct. Russian cavalry vedettes are carefully patrolling the Yellow Sea littoral, a duty that must require no small force, when not only the shores of the Liaotung peninsula but also the railway have to be watched and guarded. Takushan is the first place of any importance to the west of the Yalu estuary, and there are said to be 300 Cossacks stationed here, detachments of whom are also posted along the banks of the Tagary, though it is difficult to understand why this river should be particularly watched. Lately Chinese junks have been supposed to be carrying provisions to the ports of Takushan, Saho, and Tatung, but this can hardly be the case as the seas hereabouts are thoroughly patrolled by the Japanese vessels. If the disposition given above is the correct one, and the source is a trustworthy one, it shows a great scattering of the various detachments. The Cossacks are possessed of extraordinary mobility, which in some degree lessens the risk, but it is reported the Russians are not able to get sufficient fodder for their cattle.

Liaoyang, which may be looked upon as the Russian headquarters for the defence of the Yalu, is situated 170 miles from Antung. The

troops garrisoning this place are said to have been extremely active lately, and the report that there are now only 8,000 men there, if correct, shows the main portion of the available troops have been removed to the Yalu valley. In this case all reinforcements coming from the north will be sent to Liaoyang. Everything indicates that a great battle will shortly be fought in the vicinity of Antung, unless the Japanese by a flank movement succeed in dislocating the Russian plans entirely. From all accounts, earlier in the field, the Japanese could have easily effected a landing in the neighbourhood of Newchwang. Now, however, such an attempt would be strongly opposed, as the force having possession of that locality holds the key of the position the Russians are now defending. As for stores, the Russians seem fairly well off, having five places between Fenghwangcheng and Liaoyang making bread. In the latter place, too, there are reported to be large stores of all necessities. The road leading from Liaoyang to the Yalu is in an almost impassible condition on account of the thaw which has now set in. Fenghwangcheng promises to be a place of some interest, the Russians regarding it as an important outpost of Moukden. It is situated on the road between Kiulienching and Moukden, and there are reported to be 500 infantry and 700 cavalry (Cossacks) stationed there. The men are quartered in one of the temples, the Russians showing a marked disregard to the religious feelings of the unfortunate Manchurians, in the greatest contrast to the policy which has made British rule as acceptable as it is in other equally "pagan" places. Every cart, or whatever presents transport facilities, in the vicinity has been commandeered by the Russians, and all the cattle obtainable has been driven into the town. There is a great deal of fort-building going on around the walls; indeed the Russians appear to attach a good deal of importance to the holding of this place. At Saho 3,000 infantry are posted, and there are 500 artillery with 16 guns between the place and Antung. At Kiulienching they have 2,000 cavalry, and along the banks of the Yalu 5,000 troops of all descriptions are posted. About a week ago 2,000 cavalry under the command of General Karoff crossed the river, and advanced to the south. Nothing authoritative has since been heard of this body, but it is very probable that they assisted at the fight at Chongju.

Several attempts made to bridge the Yalu have not yet resulted in success. Iron piles have been driven into the bed of the river, and boats fastened between them, but it was found not enough were procurable to complete the bridge. All the wells on the south side of the Yalu have been filled up by the peasants, who all fled on the approach of the Russians; an unsavoury reputation preceding them. The greatest care is observed with regard to all grain or rice-shops; wherever there is one a sentry is posted, and nothing is allowed to be sold.

RUSSIAN MILITARY BLUNDERS.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Chefoo, 10th April.

MANY MILES OF USELESS TRENCHES.

Among the thousands of Chinese who have come from Newchwang lately, I got some strange stories from strange points of view, from two or three old acquaintances. One was in 1900 servant to a British newspaper correspondent on the Peking expedition, and was well known as "The Pirate," for reasons which are better left unsaid; he is now a merchant, and has been in Manchuria. Another was in 1900 a soldier of the British army, Weihaiwei Regiment; he has not greatly prospered, but went up to the mines in Heilungchiang, and afterwards worked as a coolie in the Russian service at Newchwang, helping to dig trenches. Another used to be junior billiard-marker in an English club in China, went to be a "boy" in the house of a Russian officer, and finally became foreman of a gang of labourers at Dalny. These Chinese usually have a good memory for a foreign face that they have known; and when they recognised me, I remembered them. Good

fellows, each in his sphere, "rolling stones," men of character, in their Oriental way; not empire-builders, but the raw material with which empires are built.

They were willing to tell me all they could, and to bring to me others of their own sort. "The Pirate" wanted to tell me news of events which the telegraph made known to the wide world months ago; he imagined he understood the journalistic idea. But I got some interesting descriptions of things, as viewed by the ex-soldier and others, from standpoints distinctly out of the ordinary.

I gathered that the Russians have had an enormous amount of entrenching done along the river-side just below Yinkow, the port of Newchwang. One man said the trenches extended along the left (east) bank for nearly twenty miles. He did not mean twenty miles of continuous trench, but a trench about every 300 yards for 20 miles up-river. But the river-banks, and indeed the whole country within a radius of many miles round Newchwang, is low and flat, and is liable to be entirely under water at spring tides, if there happens to be a brisk southerly wind. The whole Gulf of Pechili is subject to excessive tides, very readily influenced by winds, and this northern arm, the Gulf of Liaotung, is the worst of all. The coastline, though it looks irregular in shape, is in effect a funnel, in which the tide banks up quickly; the water is very shallow throughout, which makes the rise and fall more erratic. All along the shores of the gulf, the distance from low water mark to high-water mark runs to some miles, and the flood-tide often becomes a swift-rushing wave. Now in winter months the north-east monsoon winds prevail very steadily, and so the tide as it advances northward to Newchwang has rather to fight its way over the mud-flats. There is also usually a broad belt of ice sometimes ten miles wide, which helps to check the rush of water into the estuary of the Liao. In summer, with the south-west monsoon winds all the time and no ice, the tides average higher; and it only requires a little extra force in the wind to back up a spring tide, and submerge vast tracts of flats that appear miles inland now. Here, the Chinese said, are the Russian trenches. Perhaps the officer directing the work is new, and does not ask local advice; or perhaps the Japanese were expected before the change of monsoon; or perhaps the Russians think the chance of flooding is a risk that can be taken, and the damage at worst no very serious matter. At any rate, there are the trenches, and in some people's opinion they are sheer waste of money and energy on an enormous scale. The Russians may before long find out that they have made a colossal blunder.

The fort which is supposed to command the entrance of the river is apparently not formidable. I am told that it contains at present four guns, of about five-inch calibre, with the mark of the Peterburgskiya Arsenal on them. They are guns of modern type, but mounted in the style of about twenty years ago. There are also some of the regular field artillery, about 3-inch calibre, in the fort; and the naval guns of the *Sivoutch* were being put into the fort. But it seems the whole thing when completed could not stand against a couple of good gunboats.

There have been reports that the approach to the port by sea was guarded by sunken vessels and submarine mines. There was an official notification published by the Russian Consul in Chefoo, in the name of Viceroy Alexieff, that obstructions had been placed in the river, and mines along the coast. I am informed that these statements are incorrect, as far as is known in Newchwang. A number of Chinese junks and a large quantity of stone had undoubtedly been purchased, and the usual very liberal commissions had been pocketed by certain officers—it is notorious that Russian officers fill their pockets by such transactions as these, and this fact constitutes one of the chief underlying causes of the chain of events which dragged Russia into war. But though there was expenditure on account of blocking the river, it is still unblocked. I could not ascertain why, but I was assured that the junks and the stones are still waiting to be utilised. There is a reason for the submarine mines not yet being in position; there has been so much floating ice in the river that the mines could not be put down, and it will be necessary to wait until there are no big lumps of drift-ice left. That is only a matter

of a few days now; and possibly the junks are waiting till the mines are placed. Furthermore, when the mines are "planted," it remains to be seen whether they will be of use, for the conditions are very unfavourable. At high water there is a vast expanse of water in the estuary; deep-sea vessels have to be very careful and pick their way through a narrow channel, but vessels of lighter draught can go over some miles of shallows, where at low tide there are exposed mud-banks. It is a similar position to the Bristol Channel or the Bay of Fundy. Now, it is impossible to have a three-mile string of mines removable at low water and replaceable as the tide rises. If not removed, they would sink in the mud as the water recedes, and would probably never come up again.

To construct barriers like those in the Canton River, just below the Bogue Forts, is a laborious task, and takes time, as well as resources more complete than Newchwang possesses. And submarine mines seem useless in very shallow and receding waters.

At Yinkow, where the foreign settlement is, there are not more than about 5,000 Russian troops. At Newchwang proper, higher up the river, there are about 1,000. There are said to be 100,000 at Tashichao, about 40 miles away, where the main line of railway from Port Arthur to Harbin is joined by the Newchwang branch. The number of soldiers is corroborated from various sources, and I still think there is an element of doubt for which people as a rule forget to allow. Chinese carpenters and bricklayers know how many buildings have been put up, and what is the capacity of each barrack-room, and that is the origin of all the reports about 100,000. But I think there are more vacant quarters than people suspect, for a room that can hold 100 looks pretty full with only 70.

It is worth noting that in 1900, on the Boxer alarm reaching Newchwang, the Russians then at Tachichao received orders at 11 p.m. to move into Newchwang, and arrived by 4 a.m. next day, with all impedimenta. Of course it was not a record achievement to strike camp, entrain, and go 40 miles by rail in five hours, for less than 1,000 men; but I mention it only as an example of actual practice.

The Russians are raising revenue from the peasantry by charging each farmer one string of cash, about a dollar, for "protection," without which they are told they are not permitted to till their fields. The Chinaman meekly pays, but cannot plough because his oxen have been taken away. The Russians come and seize what they want, and fix their own prices; the farmer cannot help it. And the Russian officers, together with their Chinese interpreters and other hangers-on, pocket a good deal of money both in tax-collecting and in paying for commandeered goods. So they like war.

NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

The chief attractions this week centre round the east side of the Old Gardens. On the extreme eastern edge overhanging Garden Road are two old *Crataevus* in full flower. Higher up are two of our most beautiful native trees flowering freely under the influence of the spring weather, as indeed they may be seen just now in most of the woods upon the island, viz. *Homalium* and *Reevesia*. Both have conspicuous white flowers; the former in tassels, the latter in bunches. If any tree in Hongkong takes the place of the English Hawthorn it is *Reevesia*, which has flowers of a strikingly similar scent and not unlike in appearance. Another native tree, *Pygeum phaeostictum*, is in flower not far off.

One of the showiest Orchids in the collection, *Dendrobium densiflorum*, is now at its best in the Orchid house. The profusion of its deep yellow flowers gives it a most striking appearance.

The *Grevilleas* will soon be covered with their curious tawny flowers. There is a great number of different kinds of Silk Oak growing in Australia varying in size from large trees to small shrubs. The species represented in our Gardens is *Grevillea robusta*, the largest of the genus, attaining 100 feet or more in its native country.

HONGKONG FIRE-ENGINES.

Probably no city in the Orient the size of Hongkong has such inefficient fire-extinguishing appliances as we have. In spite of there being complaints at almost every fire that occurs in the Colony—and there are many—that there is not enough water on the mains, no steps seem to have been taken to enable the Brigade to utilise their fire-engines speedily. At the recent Queen's Road fire no water was obtainable for over half-an-hour, and by that time no less than five houses were ablaze. Why cannot the Brigade be independent of water from the mains when, but a few yards away, harbour water is always available? Most fires in the Colony occur on the lower level. At present, it may be remarked, the Volunteer Brigade are not so much to blame as one would imagine, for, to begin with, they have no fire-engines worth speaking of; and, as they have their respective Police duties to perform, cannot spare the amount of time for Brigade drill that is customary elsewhere. A *Daily Press* representative has visited the Hongkong Fire Station, in Queen's Road, and inspected the engines, which, as far as could be seen, bore no dates. Upon further investigation, however, he learned that one of the two engines there were only two—was some 15 years old, and the other had just left its "teens." Surely such a state of affairs is a disgrace to the Colony, where Chinese fraud, Chinese carelessness, and kerosene lamps abound. Is it, moreover, just to the insurance companies? We understand that at Kowloon there are no Police fire-engines, though there may be, for all we know, a few hand squirts! The Navy, at their Kowloon Torpedo Depot, have two good steam fire-engines, and a manual; and the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company have one of the latest "Shand-Mason" London engines (but 18 months old) which throws water—two deliveries—easily over their highest double-story godown. They have also a manual fire-engine, and a few Woodhouse squirts. With private property, therefore, Kowloon, no thanks to the authorities, is better off than Hongkong. The water fire-engine, it may be remarked, is efficient, though seldom under steam when required. This fire-engine question, certainly is a matter which should come before the Legislative Council.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 18th April.

ESCAPES FROM JUSTICE.

Pui King Fuk, the late Namhoi Magistrate, of whom so much has been written, and who was charged with misfeasance in office, has at last "bolted." He was put in prison and strictly watched by the Punyu Magistrate; but during the last few months he was allowed to leave the yamen privately, with full liberty to go out and come in whenever he liked. He took the opportunity to shift the residence of his family from one place to another to escape observation. One or two days he took passage on board one of the river steamers and went to Hongkong. The Punyu Magistrate, when he knew, went with some soldiers to Po Wa Street where Pui's residence was, and, finding an old amah and a coolie watching the house, took them both into custody to be examined. The present Namhoi Magistrate, Yew, and the Punyu Magistrate both went in a Chinese gunboat to pursue Pui. It is also said that he has gone to Macao. Viceroy Shum is very angry, and it is said that he has given orders to degrade the prefect of Kwangchow-fu as well as the two Magistrates. Pui was fined \$120,000; instead of paying the fine he remitted the money to Hongkong to facilitate his escape, leaving his furniture in Canton to be seized by the officials. Lai Sai Kwai, the late *fantan* monopolist, has also escaped. He was accused of misappropriating the *fantan* revenue, and fined \$500,000. Over twenty soldiers went to his last place of residence in Kwan Po Street and found the door locked and strongly secured. They borrowed a saw and big hammer from a carpenter in the

neighbourhood and broke open the door, and found nobody inside, only some old furniture.

THE PAKHOI SUICIDE.

Cheang You Choi, the late commander of the Canton native army, has committed suicide. He was an adopted son of the late Admiral Cheang Chew Chung. During the Kwangsi rebellion he was ordered by the Viceroy to take troops against the rebels. Of late he received orders from the Viceroy to disband his troops; in consequence, some of them joined the rebels. The Viceroy censured him, where on he took a revolver and putting it into his mouth blew out his brains.

RELEASED ON PROBATION.

A Captain Cheung Tak Kwai was accused of misappropriating the pay of his soldiers and permitting some of them to join the rebels. On the 20th of the Chinese moon he returned from Kwangsi with his family and had an interview with the Viceroy. The latter ordered a court-martial composed of the Commissioners of Grains, of Salt, and of Revenue, the magistrates of Namhoi and Punyu being present, and also the public executioner, who was waiting in one of the halls. After the trial Cheung was sentenced to be beheaded. When he was asked if he liked to see his family to bid them a final good-bye, he said no—as it was his destiny he was prepared to die; he then sent word to his son "not to be a mandarin." He said there was no proof of his guilt. Upon the two generals Kwang Kip and Chung Hip reporting the matter again to the Viceroy His Excellency ordered him to be released and sent him to Kwangsi to fight the rebels again, saying that he must suppress the rebellion in three months.

SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTION.

Li Sin I, General of the Pakhoi troops, was accused of some crime which has not been proved; it is believed that some mandarin charged him in order to get a squeeze. One of the Consuls (not of Canton) wrote a despatch to the Viceroy saying that Li Sin I was sick, and, as he wanted him to get cured in Europe, he took him away.

RED CROSS FOR KWANGSI.

A patriotic Chinese lady, by name Cheong Chuk Kwan, has formed a society which she has called by the name of the Red Cross Society, composed mostly of Chinese women and girls. The object of the society is to attend to the sick and wounded soldiers in the fight against the rebels.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

TO RAISE MONEY.

It is reported that a Taotai surnamed Wong has proposed to the Viceroy a new method of levying on prepared opium, a tax of four candereens to be imposed on each tael. It invites the co-operation of the merchants of the raw opium and prepared opium guilds. Ten per cent. of the tax is employed to defray the expenses of collecting the revenue and twenty per cent. to be given as bonus to the leading persons who undertake the work. If the opium-merchants refuse to accept the new method and go on strike, one million taels are to be drawn from the Government Treasury to open shops to sell prepared opium under the charge of officers, and illicit opium is to be strictly prohibited.

It is reported that To-Shing, in the vicinity of Wuchow, will be soon opened as a large market-place and some merchants have been going there lately day after day to inspect the place for the purpose of buying land on which to erect godowns and build shops.

BOLD BRIGANDS.

The notorious robbers in Namhoi and Shuntak districts, being quite conscious of the weakness of the officials, are now doing things openly under the very noses of the authorities. They have posted up notices everywhere asking their followers and other criminals, to whom they are offered them high rewards, to decoy or capture well-to-do citizens, who are to be brought to them to be held for ransom, from different villages. They are now sending agents to different places to find out the names of the rich persons secretly. The victims are to be divided into three classes according to the value of their property, so that they are able to understand what will be the ransom when they are captured.

AMOY.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 12th April.

BACHELORS' DANCE.

The energy displayed by our bachelors in arranging for a dance on the 4th inst. caused a mild sensation in Kulangsu. The day before the great event a rumour was current that some of the bachelors had actually taken their coats off and were to be seen working on the decorations, etc., in the Club Theatre. Needless to say no credence was given to this report, as it seemed too good to be true; we believe, nevertheless, that one or two privileged persons managed to get a peep at the unique sight, and were much edified by what they saw. It is only fair, however, to the bachelors to record a great success as the result of their labours, for the dance in the gaily decorated theatre lasted till an early hour to the enlivening strains of the band from S.M.S. *Luchs*, and those present had a very enjoyable time.

FLOWER SHOW.

On Tuesday the 5th inst. the cricket ground was the scene of the Amoy Horticultural Show, and it has seldom presented such a picturesque appearance. A feature of the show was the fine collection of cut flowers which would have been hard to match anywhere. The competition amongst the ladies for table-decoration was a very popular item, and amongst so many tastefully and artistically adorned tables the work of the judges must have been no light task. Mrs. Fesler received first honours with a table decorated with *eschscholtzia*, the prize being presented by Mr. A. F. Gardiner; Mrs. Van Aalst took the second prize presented by Dr. H. McDougall. Mrs. Barton's table was also "highly commended." The prize presented by Mr. T. H. Fesler for the best arrangement of cut flowers in a basket, glass, or epergne was awarded to Mrs. Barton, Miss Saunders being second. The greatest number of prizes fell to Mr. Wallace. Mr. Hempel being second, and Mr. Gardiner third on the list of prize-winners.

NAVAL NOTES.

H.M.S. *Bramble*, of straight-shooting fame—we notice that she heads the list for naval gunnery, not including battleships and cruisers, which, of course, are in separate classes—left for Foochow on the 5th inst. S.M.S. *Luchs* left for the same port two days later. S.M.S. *Thetis* arrived from Tsintau on the 12th inst. and is at present the only man-of-war in port, barring the Chinese gunboat *Yuen Kai*.

PAKHOI.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Pakhoi, 14th April.

As previously announced by me, the *Tung Sai Sun Mun* (Eastern and Western News) was launched into existence on the 19th ult. It is a weekly publication, issued from the German Mission House. In the first few numbers there was very little reading-matter to interest subscribers, and I am afraid it will not prove a financial success to its owners. However, I can only wish the paper long life.

SUICIDE OF AN OFFICIAL.

Suicide is an old practice with people of all countries, and unfortunately its occurrence progresses in the same ratio as the civilisation advances. But the means adopted differ with the different races. In China, for instance, the most common way is by swallowing opium or by hanging among the ordinary people, while among the well-to-do and official class they swallow gold leaf. It will not fail perhaps to surprise some of your readers to learn that the revolver was adopted by a native official to put an end to his existence the other day. Chiong Yon Chai, a Major-General, committed suicide on the morning of the 9th instant, at Yamchow, by shooting himself in the mouth with a revolver. The cause of such action has not yet been ascertained. The deceased was an officer of no mean distinction. He had been with Viceroy Shum last year to quell the disturbances in Kwangsi. The deceased was scarcely a few months ago appointed by Viceroy Shum to take the chief command of the garrison at Yamchow. For some reason or other, however, he was ordered to

hand over the command to Chong Ping Chet. On the arrival of the latter at Yamchow, Chiong put a tragic end to his existence. I am informed that the deceased was a man of great determination. He attempted his own life some ten years ago in Canton owing to dissatisfaction of some kind in his official career, on which occasion he shot himself in the region of the heart, but the wound was not fatal.

CHANGES IN THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY.

Small as it has always been, the foreign community here was further reduced lately by the departure of several of its distinguished members. Mr. H. A. Little, British Consul, left here for Newchwang last month, and his successor has not arrived yet. Dr. J. H. Lowry, an Assistant and Medical Officer in the Customs, left on the 3rd instant on furlough; Mrs. Lowry and two children accompanied him. Dr. L. G. Hill (Church Missionary Society), Mrs. Hill and child, left on the 7th instant for Europe. The Doctor goes home to recruit his health. Mrs. J. C. Johnston and Master Johnston left on the 10th instant for England. Dr. Sanger, from Fohkien, arrived here on the 19th ultimo to succeed Dr. Hill as Director and Medical Officer of the Church Missionary Hospital.

BURGLARY AT THE FRENCH CONSULATE.

A few days ago some burglars effected an entrance into the French Consulate and stole therefrom no less than thirty of the carrier-pigeons. The Consul, M. Flayelle, is wild at the loss of the valuable birds, which at great expense were trained by two European specialists engaged solely for the purpose. This is the second or third time that burglars have entered the building within a short time. One time the burglars decamped with three magazine rifles. The thieving fraternity is paying more attention in the town than formerly; want of proper vigilance on the part of the native authorities is badly felt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

JAPAN DURING THE WAR: ASSURANCE TO TOURISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Japanese Consulate, Hongkong, 19th April.

SIR,—As requested by the Mayors of the principal cities of Japan, I beg to ask that you will be good enough to insert the enclosed telegraphic communication received from our Foreign Minister, Baron Komura, in your news columns of the 20th instant.—Yours faithfully,
MASAICHI NOMA,
Consul for Japan.

[ENCLOSURE.]

In answer to enquiries, too numerous to be dealt with individually, and in the hope of correcting certain erroneous impressions that prevail abroad, we, the Mayors of the principal cities of Japan, beg to give our assurance that throughout the Empire of Japan normal conditions prevail, and the country is now, in war time, as orderly as in times of peace. Business men and travellers contemplating a visit to our Empire will encounter no inconvenience nor be exposed to any danger. The ordinary means of communication by land and sea are not, and cannot be, interrupted, as Japan and its territorial waters are not included within the war zone, and by reason of the positions and advantages of our fleet and armies, Japan is insured against invasion.
(Signed) Mayors of Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagasaki, Saikyo, Kobe, and Nagoya.

Latest news of the everlasting Acheen war comes from Pangkalan Brandan.—The last expedition under von Daalen, which set out on 29th February, was very successful. It is unnecessary to speak of many small skirmishes, for mention is needed only of the larger engagements which were at Bercho, Pasir, Pepareg, and Kotta Lintang, in the course of which 541 Bataks were shot by the Dutch troops. 310 dead was the result of the fight at Pepareg. Rajah Bukit and all his followers fled to the mountains. The Dutch casualties were 3 killed and 80 wounded. The expedition is advancing.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 19th April.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

NO INDICTMENT.

In the case against Sunda Singh, an Indian constable, who was charged with a grave offence, the Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley (who was instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), stated that he had read the evidence and did not consider it sufficient upon which to file an information.

The man was discharged by proclamation.

ABSENT WITNESSES.

Wong Kai was brought up on a charge of having between 30th December last and 4th January stolen nine tins of aniseed, the property of Lai Wun Hong.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. K. C. H. Newman, J. Lysaught, G. Pickering, M. Steger, D. K. Moss, T. C. Downing, and E. J. Judah.

The Attorney-General said that he did not propose to proceed with this case as several witnesses could not be found; the case was not a very strong one.

His Lordship directed the jury to return a formal verdict of not guilty.

The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

Accused was discharged.

His Lordship ordered that the recognisances of the missing witnesses be estreated.

FORGING AN ORDER.

Ip Lam, a boatman, was charged with having on 4th April offered a forged request for the delivery of seven piculs of rice purporting to be chopped by the Fung Yan Loong firm.

He pleaded not guilty.

The Attorney-General in opening the case stated that on the morning of the day in question, about ten o'clock, the accused went to a shop called the Yee Fung and asked for and got some samples of rice. About mid-day he returned and said he was satisfied with the samples and brought an order for seven piculs of rice. The rice was delivered to him on this order and was taken away to his boat. Meantime the Yee Fung firm sent the bill to the Fung Yan Loong firm upon whose supposed order the rice had been delivered. The latter repudiated the order. The Yee Fung thereupon did their best to get their rice back and recovered it on board the defendant's boat. He himself was found on a Canton boat, concealed in the crew's quarters, and was arrested. His defence was that he did not know that the order was a forgery.

The jury, after hearing evidence, found the charge proven.

His Lordship passed sentence of 18 months' imprisonment.

CHARGE OF ARSON.

Leung Pan Wan and Sin Man Wan were empanelled on a charge of having on 20th March set fire to the dwelling-house No. 45 Gough Street, certain persons being then therein.

They pleaded not guilty.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., who represented the Attorney-General, stated in his opening the case that the accused were an accountant and a coolie respectively of a miscellaneous store on the ground floor of No. 55, Gough Street, of which the upper floors were occupied as a Chinese boarding-house. The store was a new business, begun on 27th January. The master of the shop put in a certain amount of stock, and then proceeded to insure it, effecting insurances amounting to \$10,000, beside \$1500 in respect of his clothing and furniture. After this the master disappeared and on 15th March the first prisoner took over the charge of the shop. On the night of the following day the people on the first floor saw a fire on the floor below and called out to the people in the shop, who shouted back an explanation about upsetting a lamp. On the 19th a quantity of goods were taken away from the shop. On the following morning at half-past four the people on the first floor were awakened by shouts of "fire" coming from the floor above,

whence apparently they had seen the fire burning in the rear part of the floor premises, across the shaft that ran from top to bottom of the building. They ran downstairs into Gough Street and pushed open the door of the shop. Several men ran out. They caught the second prisoner and handed him over to the police. The others got away. When they went inside the shop it was found the rear portion of the building was filled with smoke and flames. There were three separate fires, and one witness would say that the goods in this store room were arranged so as to burn, these consisting of packing-cases, firewood, Japanese chardal, and cheap straw hats. The fire was put out. Next day, while the shop was in charge of the police, the first prisoner appeared, took them to another house and showed them the books of the firm which he said he had rescued. These books, he would show, had all been written up at the same time and by one man. From them it appeared that the value of the stock was \$10,000—the amount of the insurance. Mr. Lammert would tell the jury that he estimated the value of the stock at \$1,900. The case was adjourned.

Wednesday, 20th April.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

ARSON CASE.

There was again called the adjourned case in which Leung Pan Wan and Sin Man Wan were charged with arson.

The following was the jury:—Messrs. K. C. H. Newman, J. Lysaught, G. Pickering, M. Steger, D. K. Moss, T. C. Downing, and E. J. Judah.

The jury having been charged by his Lordship brought in a verdict of guilty against both defendants.

His Lordship before passing sentence asked the prisoners how long they had been connected with this shop.

Both declared that they had come down from Canton only a day or two before the fire.

His Lordship remarked that there was no doubt they were employed as trusted emissaries to burn down this place, the master taking good care to get out of the way by going off to Canton. Both men would have to go to prison for seven years with hard labour, and he would ask the police to make a note that at the end of their term they be deported from the Colony as undesirable characters. In passing this sentence his Lordship said he had taken into account the fact that the house was not burned down.

A BRIBERY CASE.

Tsoi Wai, a meat contractor, was charged with having, on 11th April, procured a bribe of \$20 to be offered to A. Watson, a public servant, the senior inspector in charge of the Government depot for animals and slaughter-house, with a view to influence his conduct as a public servant in connection with the inspection and slaughtering of animals brought by Tsoi Wai to the depot and slaughter-house.

He pleaded not guilty.

Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), conducted the prosecution; and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor), appeared for the defence.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. J. D. Morrison, G. L. Duncan, E. R. Udall, J. F. M. White, J. O. E. Meyer, E. O. Murphy, and P. Dow.

The Attorney-General in opening the case stated that Inspector Watson was senior inspector in charge of the Government cattle depot and slaughter-house at Kennedy-town. Prisoner was a butcher and held a meat contract for supplying the military authorities [sic]. He habitually had cattle in the depot. The inspector therefore was a person with whom prisoner would wish to stand well; that was a fair inference to be brought from their relative positions. Prisoner was indicted for an offence against the bribery law as set forth in section 4 of Ordinance 3 of 1898, under which it was an offence to cause

or procure a bribe to be offered to a public servant. The inspector was married, and had two little girls, one aged eight and the other four years. Mr. and Mrs. Watson and their children lived at Kennedytown beside the cattle depot. On 11th April, the day on which they alleged the bribe to have been sent, defendant had some cattle in the observation shed or quarantine; the inspector would tell them that defendant usually had some cattle in quarantine. While quarantine was necessary to the public health, in order to ensure that we had not diseased meat put on our tables, it was extremely irksome to the butcher to whom probably it caused direct pecuniary loss. It was to be regretted that the necessities of the case should ever be such as to cause pecuniary loss to anybody, but the health of the community was a far more important consideration. It was essential above all things that public officers upon whom the duty devolved of seeing that quarantine was observed should not have bribes offered to them. The facts of the case were that about 8.45 a.m. on the day in question Mrs. Watson and the younger of her two little girls were in the garden waiting on Inspector Watson coming for breakfast. Prisoner entered the garden and asked if the inspector was in. Mr. Watson said "No." Thereupon defendant sat down and talked to the little girl in Chinese. Shortly afterwards he went away after putting two \$10 notes into her hand. The little girl gave them to her mother, who handed them over to her husband when he came home. The child gave the money to her mother, and that was procuring a bribe unless defendant could give them some reason to show that \$20 was a reasonable present to the child. Inspector Watson, as soon as he got the money from his wife, and on understanding the circumstances under which it had been given, at once put it into the hands of Chief Detective Inspector Hanson. When defendant was asked about the matter by Inspector Hanson, he said he had given the money to the child to buy sweetmeats. It was rather unlikely that he would give a child \$20 to buy sweetmeats. Evidence was led for the prosecution.

Mr. Slade in addressing the jury for the defence said the prosecution suggested three things—that the money was handed to the child for her father, was handed to the child for her mother to influence her that she might deal only with this man as compradore, and that the money was meant as a bribe. Why, he asked, should the Crown look upon this money in the light of a bribe? Why should it not have been meant for the mother or for the girl herself? The jury, having been addressed by his Lordships, retired, and after a consultation of about 15 minutes, returned a verdict of guilty by a majority of 5 to 2. His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to pay a fine of \$500 or go to prison for six months. The fine was paid. The Court rose at 1.50 p.m.

Thursday, 21st April.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

IMPRISONED DEBTORS.

Mr. F. Pagett Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's office, appeared in support of an application by the Po Tsung Chang firm for a receiving order on the estate of the Po Fung Bank.

Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, appeared for Kong Kin Nam, one of the two partners in the debtor firm, both of whom were in Court in custody of a warder from the prison.

Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor, appeared for the creditor who had taken proceedings and put these two men in gaol, and also for various other creditors who had taken proceedings.

Mr. Hett stated that he understood that if his application was granted, Mr. Looker would apply for a release of the debtors, but Mr. Hastings would oppose it.

Mr. Looker said he did apply for a release.

Mr. Hastings opposed the application.

Mr. Looker argued that Mr. Hastings had no *locus standi* till he had proved his debt.

Mr. Hastings contended that these people now asking for a release were in gaol on his Lordship's order made in connection with an Original action brought by his clients, who besides were the principal people interested in this application.

The managing partner of the petitioning creditors having been called by Mr. Hett, he deposed that the bank owed them \$20,000. They had got no securities.

His Lordship granted a receiving order and appointed Mr. Bruce Shepherd Official Receiver. He ruled that Mr. Hastings had no *locus standi*.

Mr. Looker then applied that his client be released from gaol.

His Lordship remarked that this man was in gaol because he was unable to find security in an Original action, and the effect of the receiving order would be to stay that suit; if he were released now, then when the case came on he probably would have disappeared. A motion would have to be filed in due form, and application could be made to him in Chambers. Sometimes it was necessary to keep these men in gaol, otherwise they could not be found when wanted. As the accounts were incomplete he would make an order declining to entertain the application as no motion was before the Court and no affidavits had been filed. He also wanted to know what security for his appearance the Official Receiver thought necessary.

A "CONVENIENT GRANDMOTHER'S" DEATH.

Mr. John Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master, solicitors, made an application on behalf of the Official Receiver for punishment for contempt of Court and adjudication as a bankrupt in the matter of Lau Yuk Lam, debtor, *ex parte* Ching Iu Kwon. The debtor, he said, was a partner in the firm of On Hing, dealers in pipes and other European goods. A receiving order was made on 17th March last, and under Section 16 the debtor was required to make up a statement of affairs. This he had not done, and apparently he had left the Colony; whether he had returned since the Official Receiver filed this petition he could not say.

When Lau Yuk Lam's name was called he came forward and was put under oath in the witness-box.

His Lordship—Why have you not filed your statement of affairs?

Debtor—I have done so; I have brought all the account-books in.

The Official Receiver (Mr. Bruce Shepherd)—He has filed no statement at all. I fancy he must have left the Colony.

His Lordship—Have you been away since this order was made?

Debtor—I went back to the country.

His Lordship—What business had you to go back to the country?

Debtor—My grandmother died.

His Lordship—I never knew a Chinaman that did not have a convenient relative die. The first duty you have got to do is to show respect to this Court. Instead of being in gaol as you ought to be, you come here and ask to be made a bankrupt and have these actions against you stayed, and then you think you have done your duty to everybody and walk off to China. Why did you not go and ask the administrator's permission?

Debtor—I did not understand.

His Lordship—You cannot go away any more than anybody else. If my grandmother died I could not go away. You do whatever you please.

Debtor—I did not understand.

His Lordship—You understand perfectly well all about these things. Why did you not attend the first meeting of your creditors on the 8th April?

Debtor—I did not know.

His Lordship—Very well; I will commit you for contempt of Court. The best way, Mr. Bruce Shepherd, is to send him to gaol, and you can have him on *habeas corpus* when you want him. Let him be taken off to gaol for contempt of Court. If he thinks he can play fast and loose with this Court he is making a mistake. What you have got to do is this. First of all you have to obey the law. This is what the law says:—When a receiving order has been made the debtor shall (it does not say if it is convenient to him or if his grandmother does not die) make out and submit to the Official Receiver a statement of and in relation to his affairs, which has

got to be verified by affidavit showing particulars of all your debts, assets, and liabilities.

Debtor—All my books were brought into Court.

His Lordship—Do you think you can leave somebody else to do all the work for you while you run off into the country and amuse yourself?

Debtor—I did not know.

His Lordship—What do you think would happen in China supposing you could not pay money that you owe instead of in Hongkong?

Debtor—I do not understand the Chinese law very well.

His Lordship—They have got a way of making you understand, which is very personal in its application.

The Official Receiver said he was informed that the debtor was a wealthy man and had a lot of money in China.

His Lordship stated he would commit him until he had purged himself of his contempt of Court by giving all the assistance the Receiver required from him.

The Official Receiver added that one of the creditors told him that he had applied to the Chinese Magistrate where he believed the debtor to be for his arrest. The Magistrate replied that as he was a British subject he could not interfere with him. Probably it was on account of the proceedings there that he had come back here just in time for the Court.

His Lordship granted adjudication and ordered debtor to be imprisoned until he had furnished all the information required by the Official Receiver, who could then apply for his release.

Debtor—Will you allow me to remain out of gaol?

His Lordship—No; you have had an opportunity of remaining outside of gaol, and instead of doing what was required you went off and laughed at me. You would very likely do the same thing again.

Debtor—No; I would not do so.

His Lordship—I will not give you the opportunity.

The Court adjourned.

BOWLING.

HONGKONG CLUB V. CLUB GERMANIA.

The bowling match for the Challenge Shield between the Hongkong Club and the Club Germania was played on the 19th and 20th inst., on the alleys of the two clubs. The Hongkong Club started with a lead of 419 point on Tuesday's play, but the Germans pulled up in a wonderful manner on Wednesday and were only beaten by 132 points finally. The Hongkong Club, however, succeeded in winning the Shield outright. Chater's fine bowling—though he only beat Wacker by 19 pins—backed up by that of Hinds and Bonnar had a good deal to do with the result; but it is to be noted that the Club Germania secured four out of the first six places.

The scores were as follows, those marked with an asterisk being made on the Hongkong Club alleys:—

HONGKONG CLUB.				
J. W. C. Bonnar (7)...	234	116	203	198 *751
	183	150	172	153 658 1409
C. P. Chater (1).....	193	168	190	150 706
	227	148	237	142 *751 1460
C. H. Gale (15)	127	142	267	140 676
	174	156	162	103 *595 1271
T. C. Gray (10)	147	204	168	136 655
	219	162	147	157 *685 1347
H. Hancock (12) ...	214	151	167	168 *700
	144	203	151	126 624 1,24
J. Hooper (9).....	162	190	146	238 *736
	181	153	170	125 629 1365
E. H. Hinds (3).....	167	209	196	153 725
	164	174	185	188 *711 1436
F. Maitland (8).....	227	216	202	152 *797
	163	159	145	119 586 1383
10988				

GERMAN CLUB.				
E. Eberius (6).....	174	206	164	143 687
	183	188	171	1-2 *724 1411
G. Engel (16)	178	172	176	137 663
	133	187	142	102 *564 1227
C. Koch (11)	144	156	193	184 687
	208	183	123	141 *654 1331
C. H. Lammert (4)...	193	196	158	182 *729
	213	217	163	113 7 6 1435
A. Rombach (5).....	165	176	112	177 *630
	221	173	213	176 783 1413
W. O. Spalckhaven (14)	186	148	133	162 *629
	175	155	206	128 684 1293
A. Thiessen (13).....	130	211	69	129 *539
	194	246	213	113 766 1905
J. Wacker (2)	190	182	235	166 *773
	231	182	134	121 668 1441
10856				

Altogether since the competition started the Hongkong Club has won ten matches against the German Club's seven. The Hongkong Club has won 2 Shields to the Germans' one.

HONGKONG CRICKET LEAGUE.

PRESENTATION OF SHIELD.

On the Cricket Ground on the 20th inst. the Shield presented for competition to the Cricket League was formally handed over to the winners, the Army Ordnance Corps C.C., in presence of a large number of ladies and gentlemen. Mr. A. G. Ward, first, as representing the board of directors of the *South China Morning Post*, (the donors of the trophy) made over the shield to the President of the League, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, who thanked the directors for their handsome gift. He then, after a neat speech, in which he referred to the impetus lent to cricket in the Colony by the formation of the League, formally presented the shield to Captain P. G. Davies, the captain of the winning team, and miniature gold shields (the gift of the League) to each member of the A.O.C. XI., complimenting them on their being the first winners of the trophy and wishing them success in the future. Captain Davies responded suitably, and the ceremony terminated with three cheers for the A.O.C. Club, three for their captain, three for the President of the League, and three more for the Navy.

LAWN TENNIS.

H.K.C.C. V. L.R.C.

This competition, the Ladies' Recreation Club v. the Hongkong Cricket Club, was played on the Cricket Ground on the 20th inst. The band of the Sherwood Foresters, under Bandmaster Bradley, played selections on the field. The results, the names of the Hongkong Cricket Club members in each instance coming first, were as follows:—

Strickland and Martin v. Halifax and Newland, 2-6, 5-6.

Strickland and Martin v. Heath and Smith, 5-6, 6-3.

Hancock and Humphreys v. Heath and Smith, 6-1, 6-2.

Hancock and Humphreys v. Pinckney and Grist, 6-5, 5-6.

Hancock and Humphreys v. Halifax and Newland, 6-2, 6-1.

Smith and Atkinson v. Pinckney and Grist, 1-6, 3-6.

Smith and Atkinson v. Heath and Smith, 1-6, 6-1.

Smith and Atkinson v. Halifax and Newland, 2-6, 6-3.

These scores gave the Hongkong Cricket Club the victory by 81 games to 77, the sets being level.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The following cards were returned at the meeting held at the Happy Valley from the 16th to the 18th April:—

ROSS FARWELL CUP.

Mr. W. J. Gresson	91	— 14	= 77
Mr. J. Rodgers	93	— 16	= 77
Dr. R. Gibson	90	— 12	= 78
Mr. G. C. Moxon	98	— 18	= 80
Mr. T. S. Forrest	79	+ 2	= 81
Mr. H. C. Sandford	101	— 18	= 83
Mr. J. Johnstone	89	— 5	= 84
Mr. T. C. Gray	100	— 16	= 84
Mr. C. B. Grace	99	— 14	= 85
Mr. W. Taylor	104	— 18	= 86
Mr. D. Sayle	108	— 18	= 90

30 entries.

POOL.

Mr. G. C. Moxon	98	— 18	= 80
Mr. T. S. Forrest	79	+ 2	= 81
Mr. W. D. Kraft	97	— 15	= 82
Mr. E. V. D. Parr	93	— 10	= 83
Mr. J. Johnstone	89	— 5	= 84
Mr. T. C. Gray	100	— 16	= 84
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	87	— 1	= 86

21 entries.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

ELEVENTH CLUB RACE.

On Saturday, the 16th April, the championship yachts resailed the eleventh club race over Course 25, which had been left unfinished on the 19th March. The wind was blowing strong from the east at the start, but it gradually became fainter and fainter as the yachts neared Green Island, the markboat being anchored in a spot visited by alternate puffs and calms. The *Aileen*, taking advantage of a strong puff, was first round the markboat, but shortly afterwards sailed into a calm. The *Dione* and *Vernon* then looked as if they intended to go away, but they also lost the wind. Finally the *Elspeth* hit off the true wind and streaked away to Stonecutter's, leaving the others standing still, and she here got a lead of about 2 miles. The *Vernon* got away next, then the *Aileen* and lastly *Dione*, but none of them could catch the *Elspeth* again, and *Dione* and *Vernon* gave up. The times at the finish were:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Elspeth</i> ...	5	40	5
<i>Aileen</i> ...	5	52	10

MR. W. B. DIXON'S CUP.

On the 17th instant there was a good muster of the fleet to compete for a cup kindly presented by Mr. B. Dixon the only absentee being *Erica*. There was a moderate breeze from the eastward.

The course was as follows:—Mark-boat off Stonecutter's Island (port); mark-boat off Green Island (starboard); rock in Chi Wan channel (starboard), and finish off the Police Pier, Kowloon.

The start was a very pretty one, *Chanticleer* and *Vernon* getting off first. All set spinnakers starboard for the run to the Stonecutter's mark-boat. The breeze was a fresh one, and the boats were travelling very quickly, and the Stonecutter's mark was rounded by *Chanticleer* and *Vernon* first, then *Dione*, with the rest close up. Here main-booms were gybed to starboard, and spinnakers again set for the reach to Green Island. *Vernon* and *Dione* passed *Chanticleer*, but on arriving at the Green Island mark, *Vernon* passed it on the wrong side, namely to port instead of to starboard, and *Dione* followed suit, so that both on finding their mistake had to go round again. This caused some confusion in the fleet, and *Iris*, taking advantage of it, assumed first place with *Colleen* and *Elspeth* second and third. It was now a broad reach to Chin Wan channel against the ebb tide, which was pouring fast out of Chin Wan Bay. *Vernon* again showed her powers of speed by passing the other boats, and assumed first place; *Iris* and *Min* amused themselves by having a luffing match, which somewhat delayed them. *Vernon*, on arrival at the rock, had a substantial lead, but on rounding the rock, although she gave it a reasonable berth, she struck an outlying rock under water about 20 feet from the main rock and remained fast, and before her crew were successful in getting her off she had been passed by *Elspeth*, *Colleen*, and *Dione*. She then, however, slid off the rock and proceeded. This incident shows the danger of making unknown rocks marks in the courses, especially when they are to be rounded at or near low water, and on future occasions it would be well for the Committee to examine rocks carefully before making them marks in races.

It was then a beat with a north-easterly wind to the starting line. *Dione* soon assumed pride of place, and sailing very fast increased her lead, and after rounding the Eastern point of Stonecutters, *Vernon* again passed *Elspeth*. Meanwhile, however, *Iris*, exercising excellent judgment, had gone outside of Stonecutter's contrary to the opinion of the rest of the fleet, who all chose the inside passage. *Iris* proved to have been amply justified in her choice, for outside Stonecutter's the wind proved more northerly, and she actually was able to make the line on the port tack, without making a single tack between the point of Stonecutter's and the finishing line, except a short hitch at the finish, while the rest of the fleet had to make several tacks inside Stonecutter's. In these circumstances, of course, it was impossible for the newer boats to concede the *Iris* the 13 minutes' time which

they had to allow her under the handicap, and *Iris* proved to be an easy winner.

The course did not prove to be a good one, as, with the exception of two or three tacks inside Stonecutter's, which, as it turned out, were hardly necessary, there was no windward work whatever throughout the race. The older boats have been having all their own way in handicap races lately, and the Committee must either reduce the handicaps materially, or should see that courses are chosen in which there is a substantial amount of windward work to be done.

The times of finishing are appended:

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Dione</i> ...	3	16	28
<i>Vernon</i> ...	3	19	7
<i>Elspeth</i> ...	3	20	20
<i>Aileen</i> ...	3	22	52
<i>Alannah</i> ...	3	24	3
<i>Iris</i> ...	3	24	30
<i>Chanticleer</i> ...	3	26	52
<i>Colleen</i> ...	3	26	17
<i>Min</i> ...	3	26	35
<i>Bonito</i> ...	3	27	24
<i>Gloria</i> ...	3	33	50
<i>Payne</i> ...	3	35	22
<i>Kathleen</i> ...	3	36	20
<i>Doreen</i> ...	3	36	30

After the race, members adjourned to Mr. Dixon's launch, where the health of the winner and donor of the cup were drunk with enthusiasm.

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 221 non-Chinese and 71 Chinese to the former and 89 non-Chinese and 1,532 Chinese to the latter institution.

Capt. Bremer, of the German steamer *Progress*, arrived from the South on the 18th. He towed up a lighter, of about 500 tons, from Ha Lin, in the Tonkin Gulf. The lighter is consigned to the United States Consul at Canton.

A band performance by the musicians from the German cruiser *Hansa* in the Botanic Gardens on the 19th inst. was a great success. A fair number had assembled by 5 o'clock, when the first item on the programme was given, and as time went on quiet a large assemblage gathered, ladies forming the majority among the European section. The music was very much appreciated, and, though at first the applause might have been more marked, toward the end, when the audience had increased in number, no complaint could be made on this score. The *Hansa* deserves hearty thanks of the Hongkong public. It is to be hoped that this will not be the only band performance in the Gardens this summer.

A severe accident, the explosion of the main steam-pipe, has crippled the freighter *Cowrie*. She is now powerless in Hongkong harbour, riding at anchor peacefully until such time as the nimble hands of clever engineers have completed repairs. The vessel, bound North up-coast, whilst proceeding on her way, making a departure from the wharf at Taikokui, was suddenly brought to a standstill. The main steam-pipe had exploded, allowing the steam to hiss out and fill the engine-room in less time than it takes to relate. Engineers, firemen, greasers, stokers, and everyone in the engine-room in fact, rushed up the slippery iron staircase to escape scalding and suffocation, all getting away, for a wonder, with their lives. The vessel was brought to an anchor, while the engine room department opened wide the skylights so as allow the moist cloud of steam to go its way, and eventually the men were enabled to get below to draw the fires. All on board may be very thankful that the occurrence did not happen at sea, for if it had there is no telling to where the steamer might have drifted while repairs were being executed. The vessel is now anchored in the Harbour, to the south of Stonecutter's Island. The *Cowrie* is a British steamer of 3,155 tons, commanded by Capt. A. E. McDonnell. She came this way from Sumatra with petroleum for the North, leaving Singapore, her last port, on the 11th inst., and arriving at Hongkong on the 18th inst. She called here simply for bunkering purposes. Her local agents are Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

The German gun-boat *Tsin Tau* arrived from up-river on the 19th. H.M.S. *Algerine* left for Shanghai. The Chinese gun-boat *Chan Tung*, Capt. Sz Kan Yin, has arrived from Canton.

At about 1.30 a.m. on the 20th inst. fire broke out at No. 210, Queen's Road, a house bearing the sign of Tsun Fung, situated not far from the Globe Hotel. The premises were occupied by a jeweller, money-changer, etc., and a haberdashery-dealer on the ground floor, and as dwellings on the three upper floors. Mr. Hallifax and the Brigade hurried to the scene, extinguishing the flames after about an hour's work, but not before the house was completely gutted.

The Italian armoured cruiser *Marco Polo* arrived from Taranto on the 21st, having left Singapore on the 13th inst. She is a vessel of 4,583 metric tons displacement, 27 ft. long, 48 ft. 3 in. beam, 19 ft. 6 in. draught, and 10,543 i.h.p. She was built at Castellamare in 1900 at a cost of £341,400. She has 4 in. belt armour, and the same thickness at gun positions. Her guns consist of six 5.9-in. Q.F., ten 4.7-in., two 2.9-in., nine 2.2-in., four 1.4-in., and two machine guns. She has five torpedo tubes, one being submerged. Her normal coal supply is 600 tons; complement, 394; and speed 19 knots per hour.

On Tuesday quite a gloom was cast over the community of Quarry Bay by the tragic death of Mr. David Currie, an overseer of sugar boilers at the Taikoo Refinery. About nine o'clock he was on the eighth floor of the building and accidentally fell out of a window to the ground, a distance of about seventy feet, death, of course, being instantaneous. Mr. Currie, who belonged to Greenock, had been employed in the Refinery for the last thirteen years. He was but thirty-five years of age, and leaves a wife and four children, three of the latter being now at home. The funeral took place at the Happy Valley on the 20th.

The Portuguese battleship *Vasco da Gama* arrived from Macao (whither she arrived from Europe on Sunday) at about 10.30 a.m. on the 19th inst. and leaves for Shanghai shortly. The *Vasco da Gama*, by the way is the only battleship in the Portuguese Navy. She has a displacement tonnage of 3,020 metric tons, length 233 ft., beam 40 ft., and draught 18½ ft. She was built at Leghorn between the years 1876 and 1878 at a cost of £132,000. Her armour consists of 9½ in. belt, 3 in. deck, 9 in. side above belt, and 7½ in. at gun positions. She has two 9-in. guns, four 4.7-in., two 2.5-in., two 1-pr., four machine guns, and two torpedo-tubes. She can steam 15½ knots. Her complement is 218. She formed part of the Portuguese squadron in the Far East many years ago.

At muster last Sunday evening, when policemen had collected to answer the roll-call, Indian Constable No. 669 was absent. He was not to be found at his quarters at that time, nor did he return later. Next day his body was found by the Water Police floating in the Harbour, and conveyed to the Morgue. From investigations it appears that deceased went to Kennedy Town on Sunday afternoon to visit his brother, employed as a watchman there. After spending some time conversing with other Indians, the indispensable hubble-bubble being passed around, the brothers left Kennedy Town at half-past-six. On arriving at Queen's Road West they parted, each going their respective ways, and the constable brother taking a ricksha. The movements of deceased could not be further traced. There were no marks of violence on the corpse.

Archbishop John Guidi, Papal Delegate to the Philippines, arrived at Hongkong by the s.s. *Zafiro* on the 19th inst. and was met by a launch of Roman Catholic priests. Monsignor Guidi is a man of some 52 summers, and was dressed on this occasion in cassock and brimmed hat, wearing a heavy gold chain and crucifix around his neck. He is accompanied by his Secretary, Father O'Connor, an Englishman in spite of his name. They are at present being entertained by Bishop Piazzoli, but leave for Macao shortly, the King of Portugal having given orders to the Government of that colony to prepare the Government House of Flora for him. Archbishop Guidi is an eminent prelate having been to almost every Court in Europe. He was at Berlin for a few years, at Madrid, Lisbon, in Russia, Brazil, North America, and many other places.

Again we have to announce a fire, this time at No. 31, Pokfulam Road. It occurred on Wednesday evening, some \$60 worth of property being spoiled. The premises in question are occupied by a Madame Guion, who is a dealer in second-hand furniture, which, after being renewed, is sold at various places. Fires have quite come in fashion again, and though this is not a very large one it keeps the ball rolling.

Inspector McNab, of the Hongkong Police leaves for home on a well-earned pension next month, after serving no less than 24 years in the Force. Three of these were spent in Glasgow and 19 in Hongkong. In 1885 seven men were required for the Hongkong Police, and Inspector McNab, at that time a young constable, was chosen as one of them. He arrived at Victoria in due course, and worked himself up to his present position with an absolutely clean sheet. He is in spite of his two dozen years of wear and tear, still a young man, and will, no doubt, enjoy many years on his pension.

MISCELLANEOUS.

M. Ratard, Consul-General of France at Shanghai, has been made by the Tsar a Commander of the Order of S. Stanislas.

Dr. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent, left Peking for Corea on the morning of the 10th inst.

M. Hardouin, the Chief Secretary of the Governor-General of French Indo-China, went home by the last French Mail.

At the Hague a Convention has been signed with France relating to the laying of a cable between Saigon and Pontianak, in the Dutch East Indies.

A writer in a Manila paper informs his readers that Penang is one of the five Federated Malay States, the remaining four being Singapore, Malacca, Dindings, and Province Wellesley!

On the 15th inst., at Shanghai, Billy Bellow defeated Jim Sherlock (U.S.S. *Cincinnati*) in five rounds for the welter-weight boxing championship of China and a side wager of \$150 gold.

Mr. William Cowan, who has just resigned the position of Protector of Chinese at Ipoh, has been presented with an address signed by all the leading Chinese in Kinta on his departure for China in connection with the recruiting of coolies for the Transvaal.

The death occurred in hospital at Shanghai on the 2nd inst. of Mr. John Mossop, who will be remembered here as having come up to the Public Works Department four years ago. He went to Shanghai as an architect on his own account in 1902. Deceased was prominent at smoking concerts and such entertainments when he was here. He was 46 years old when he died.

Immediate effect has been given to the recently concluded Franco-Siamese treaty by the appointment of MM. Strembler, Lambert, Fournier, and Debasse to a mission in Siam to promote French influence in that country. The Governor-General of French Indo-China has further commissioned the four gentlemen to form a bureau on their return to deal with all questions tending to promote French interests in Siam.

The *China Times* of the 11th inst. says:—The German merchant mentioned in a recent telegram as having been wounded at the last bombardment of Port Arthur is Mr. Hansen, of Sietas, Block and Co. He was wounded by a fragment of a shell and has been removed to Kirin. His brother, Mr. Carl Hansen, of Chefoo, has set out to see him, and reached Newchwang on Friday. There were also six other civilians wounded during the last bombardment at Port Arthur.

Hongkong and Manila are making similar progress in many respects. Our electric tramway power-house is progressing favourably, while material for the construction of the power-house of the Electric Street Railroad Company at Manila is arriving at that port. The work of constructing the building will begin within a few days. The power-house will be located on the small island in the rear of Tabacalera cigar factory, known as Smith, Bell and Company's island.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 12th March, 1904.—Re-reels.—Business is nominally closed in this class for the current season. Filatures.—A new fall in exchange has made transactions easier but prices asked for 6th crop silk are comparatively high, the supply of cocoons being nearly exhausted. The weather now is favourable, and prospects are so far promising for the new crop. From sales made we quote:—Wing Shing Lun 9/11 at 4840; Miu King Shing 11/13 at 4780; Wai King Wo 18/22 at \$695. Short-reels.—There has been some demand from America for stock, and a moderate business has resulted. A few contracts have been placed in new silk, but reelers in general are unwilling to engage ahead to any extent. Waste Silk.—The supply is nearly exhausted. Sales of Steam Waste have been made at current rates from stocks and some forward transactions are reported in new season Waste.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 22nd April.—There is no change in the prices as when last reported.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.35 to \$8.40	pcia.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.45 to 7.50	"
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.70 to 5.75	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.20 to 8.25	"
Do. " 2, White.....	7.35 to 7.40	"
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.75 to 5.80	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.60 to 5.65	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.70 to 12.75	"
Shekloong "	10.85 to 10.90	"

RICE.

Hongkong, 22nd April.—The downward tendency continues market being dull.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.85 to \$2.90
" Round, good quality	3.60 to 3.65
" Long	3.70 to 3.75
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.25 to 3.30
" Garden, " No. 1	3.40 to 3.45
" White,	4.00 to 4.05
" Fine Cargo	4.30 to 4.35

RICE.

Messrs. W. S. Hale & Co., of Saigon, in their latest circular state:—Planters are holding back their stocks for higher prices, hence daily supplies of Paddy only amount to 35/40,000 piculs, this does not more than fill daily requirements. Since the date of our last report, prices kept fluctuating more or less, chiefly governed by the Hongkong market, and are steady at the close. During the decline experienced lately, a fair business has been done with Europe.

We quote for May/June delivery:—

No. 2 White sifted (trié) steam milled (mixed)	per picul
No. 2 White unsifted (ordinaire) steam milled (mixed)	\$3.10
5 % Cargo steam milled (mixed)	2.75
10 % Cargo steam milled "	2.58
20 % Cargo steam milled "	2.53

OPIUM.

20th April.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1000 to \$1040	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1060 to \$1100	do.
Malwa Older	\$1120 to \$1160	do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1180 to \$1220	do.
Persian fine quality	\$890 to —	do.
Persian extra fine	\$910 to —	do.
Patna New	\$1345 to —	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1352½ to —	do.
Benares New	\$1345 to —	do.
Benares Old	\$1342½ to —	do.

COAL.

Up-to-date the arrivals of coal at Hongkong have been 44,300 tons of Japanese and 23,200 tons of English coal, all sold; and 17,000 tons of Welsh coal and 21,000 of Japanese (all sold) are expected to arrive.

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee, in his report, dated Hongkong, April 22nd, says:—The tomb-worship festival influences continue to affect business, but during the interval a slightly improved enquiry has been experienced, and it is estimated that close upon 3,000 bales have gone into consumption, the chief features being the scarcity of desirable tickets of No. 10s and No. 16s, and the fancy prices paid for some of them. Values, although still below replacing cost, show a further appreciation of \$1 to \$2 per bale, and the aspect of the market at the close points to a continuance of the advance. Country buyers will probably

return to market towards the end of the month, when a fair demand is looked for. Meanwhile we close quiet but strong.

Local Manufacture:—There is no business doing in local spun threads, and the mill is running short time.

Japanese Yarn:—A fair business has been done in these spinings and settlements of about 400 bales No. 20s at from \$133 to \$136½ have transpired, closing strong.

Raw Cotton:—An entirely blank fortnight has been experienced both in Indian and Chinese descriptions; extreme rates and scarcity precluding business. When Mr. Sully's failure in America was announced last month, it was generally believed that the "bullish" element had come to an end and that prices would soon return to the normal level. But these expectations have not been realized, simply because the dominating feature in the situation is not so much the manipulations of the American speculators as the economic fact that the world's sources of supply have not expanded in proportion to the rapid progress of consumption. Unsold stocks in Hongkong are estimated at 2,000 bales Indian and 500 Chinese. Quotations are Bengal \$28 to \$32, and Chinese \$31 to \$33.

Exchange on India, after some fluctuations, closed to-day at Rs. 132½ for T/T and Rs. 132½ for Post. On Shanghai 72½, and 87½ on Yokohama.

The undernoted business in imported and local yarns is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 8th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Continued firmness of holders and short supplies have caused an advance of two Taels, especially in No. 10s, and the market closes firm. Settlements have been limited and aggregate 3,425 bales with an estimated unsold stock of 26,000 bales.

Japanese:—A quiet but steady demand continues, sales amounting to 1,800 bales, and prices showing a substantial advance, especially in No. 20s, say Tls. 90 to 95 for No. 16s and Tls. 98 to 103 for No. 20s.

Local:—Business reported has not been large, total settlements aggregating 1,825 bales, say 475 bales No. 10s at Tls. 86 to 88 and 1,350 bales No. 14s at Tls. 87½ to 82½; close firm.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Messrs. Noel Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Circular dated Shanghai, 14th April, 1904, state:—Further violent fluctuations in exchange have been in constant attendance on our market, their complexity being quite bewildering. The downward movement went on until 2s. 3½d. was touched and remained steady at that for a couple of days, when a sudden reaction set in and rates bounded up a half penny at one jump. Since then the advance has continued assisted by stronger silver. The situation has been complicated by a want of unanimity amongst the banks, until neither buyers or sellers know exactly where they are. That any business at all was practicable speaks well for the strength of the market, the wet weather, which has somewhat restricted clearances, being to a great extent accountable for the few transactions reported. The home markets are to all intents and purposes unaffected by the decline in cotton, which is down a farthing for the week, the quotation for Mid. American coming yesterday 8.24d., while Egyptian, was 9½d. According to mail advices manufacturers in Lancashire started in buying when Neill's reduced estimate of the crop was made known, except the makers for China exclusively, who felt compelled to shut down, and so far as we can hear, next to nothing has gone through since. With New York, however, it has been possible to connect, for during the interval purchases to the extent of about 8,000 bales drills have been booked there for this market. In face of the comparatively heavy stock of sheetings the relatively cheaper prices quoted have not attracted buyers, in fact importers have found it more advantageous to buy back from second hand holders here. The outside markets appear to be in quite a healthy position, and even Tientsin is now enquiring for goods. Newchwang is in want of supplies, but shippers here dare not take the risk, meanwhile shipments of produce are coming down freely. Now the gunboats have left the port it is feared the entrance to the River will be mined and made altogether too dangerous for navigation. The Indian yarn trade appears to have come to a deadlock at the moment, the transactions during the week under review being quite the smallest on record this year. For

Japanese spinning there is a good enquiry at steady prices, but local yarns are barely so strong. The cotton market is quiet but steady at last week's quotations. The local newspapers have lately published a remarkable scheme promulgated by Sir Robert Hart, K.G. in response, apparently, to a request made by some one in high authority in Peking, who is evidently strongly in favour of reform. The main feature of it is to abolish all domestic taxes and "squeeze" as at present levied, and to raise a regular revenue by a uniform Land Tax throughout the empire, which would enable a properly organised civil service to be established, all official, from Viceroy downwards to be on fixed salaries, liberal appropriations for a standing Army and Navy, for education and other necessary purposes of public utility. The present trade duties and such like revenue to be appropriated for paying off the Indemnities and Foreign Loan, until such time as they are cleared off entirely, after which free trade could be established, as the amount estimated to be derived from the Land Tax would be more than ample for all requirements. The scheme is certainly most attractive, and accompanied as it is by simple suggestions as to its inauguration, which it is calculated could be done throughout the eighteen Provinces within three years, looks at first sight perfectly feasible, and would create in this country a reformation even swifter than that of Japan. Another suggestion by the same authority is also published, namely the establishment of a Government Registry of Trade Marks and Patents, which should meet with the approval of foreign importers, except that the fees look rather steep.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 22nd April.

Beans	\$3.90
Borax	\$17½
Camphor (China)	\$165
(Formosa)	\$—
Cassia (First quality)	\$20.75 @ 21.25
(Second ")	\$13.50 @ 15
Oil	\$160
Cloves	\$12 @ 59
Fennel Seed Oil	\$330
Galangale	\$2.75 @ 6
Garlic	\$—
Glue	\$26
Grapes	\$15
Ivory	\$200 @ 650
Kismiss	\$11 @ 12
Olibanum	\$5 @ 26
Rosa Oil	\$60 @ 175
Saltpetre	\$10 65
Sandal wood	\$27 @ 29
Oil	\$'00 @ 400
Senna Leaves	\$2 @ 4
Sugar Candy	\$10 30
Vermilion	\$84 @ 86
Wax	\$34 @ 38.50

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 13th April. — The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 34.00
Do. seconds	" 29.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 21.00
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour),	" 58.00
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each)	" 9.70
White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi)	" 10.80
White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu)	" 10.20
Green China Grass (Szechuen)	" 11.70
Jute	" 4.95
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow)	" 10.80
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchew and/or Macheng)	" 9.50
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu)	" 11.00
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu)	" 9.50
Animal Tallow	" 19.00
Gallnuts (usual shape)	" 20.50
Do. (Plum) do.	" 120.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	" 20.00
Black Bristles	" 21.75
Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck)	" 3.20
" Wild Duck	" 4.75
Turmeric	" 7.95
Sesamum Seed	" 7.90
Sesamum Seed Oil	" 7.90
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	" 8.50
Wood Oil	" 8.50
Tea Oil	" 8.50

Per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, sailed on 19th April. For Marseilles:—771 bales raw silk, 6 cases silk piece goods, 46 packages human hair, 56 cases cassia, 200 bales pierced cocoons, 199 rolls matting, 2 cases ylang ylang oil, 22 packages sundries. For Lyons:—400 bales raw silk. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For London:—1 case documents.

Per steamer *Hamburg*, sailed on 13th April. For Colombo:—76 cases preserves. For Aden:—1,753 bags sugar, 202 cases cassia, 200 rolls china-ware, 25 bundles galangal. For Naples:—2 cases blackwood ware. For Genoa:—280 bales raw silk. For Antwerp:—29 cases chinaware. For Antwerp and Hamburg:—118 boxes bristles. For Amsterdam and Rotterdam:—50 cases cassia, 3 cases ginger. For Bremen:—47 rolls mats. For Bremen and Hamburg:—140 bales feathers, 11 cases blackwood ware. For Hamburg:—140 cases essential oil, 73 bales mats, 14 cases blackwood ware, 8 cases palmleaf fans, 4 cases chinaware, 3 cases curios, 3 cases feathers, 2 cases silk. For Hamburg and London:—40 cases essential oil. For London:—200 rolls mats, 4 cases chinaware. For Copenhagen:—200 cases cassia.

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 22nd April, 1904. — During the past week a good general enquiry has continued to prevail and a fair volume of business has been transacted in most of our principal stocks at advancing rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firm, and fair sales have been effected at the improved rate of \$657½ at which a few more shares are obtainable. London has advanced to £64. Nationals have continued in request, and sales have been booked at \$36.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in demand and \$520 is now offered without attracting sellers. China Traders have sold and can still be placed at \$60. Yangtszes are wanted at \$135 and Cantons at the improved rate of \$185.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have sold and are in further request at \$290. Chinas have been booked at \$83½ and close with probable buyers at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have again been booked at \$28½ and \$29 and more shares are enquired for. Indo-Chinas advanced during the early part of the week to \$97, but are somewhat easier at the close with sellers at \$96, buyers at \$95. China and Manilas continue on offer at \$21½. Douglasses after sales at \$35½ and \$36 are enquired for at \$36½. Star Ferries have advanced and can now be placed at \$32 and \$20 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports have sold at 22½ and 22½ and close steady.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued to advance, and after sales at from \$123 to \$128 are in further demand at the higher rate. Luzons continue neglected at \$10 sellers.

MINING.—No business is reported under this head. Raubs close weak with sellers at \$6.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have firmed up and now close in request at \$208 after sales at \$206 and \$207 for cash and the settlement. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves show a further advance, sales having been effected at from \$96 to \$100, the market closing steady at the latter rate. New Amoy Docks have receded to \$32½ sellers. Farnhams after local sales at Tls. 150 have receded in the North to Tls. 145 at this rate, however there are buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$147 and close somewhat firmer with buyers at \$148. Kowloon Lands are unchanged at \$35½. West Points are enquired for at \$52. Hongkong Hotels continue steady with probable sellers at \$132. Humphrey's Estates are in request at \$10½ and \$1½ for the old and new issues respectively. Shanghai Lands have improved in the North to Tls. 108.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations are unchanged, and no business is reported in this section.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$22½. China Borneos have improved to \$8½ buyers. Watsons have sold and are in further request at \$14½. Electrics

have buyers at \$13 and \$7 for the old and new issues respectively. Dairy Farms have improved to \$13 buyers and United Asbestos (ordinary) to \$9½ after sales at \$9. China Providents have been booked at \$8.90 and Powell's at \$9½, the latter closing in further request.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	(\$657½, sellers L'don, £64.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$36, sales & buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$36, sales & buyers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$10.
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$320, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$59½, buyers
North China	£5	Tls. 67½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$158, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$290, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$83½.
Steamship Coys.—		
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$29, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$96, sellers
China and Manila	\$50	\$21½, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36½, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	22/6
Do. pref. shares	£10	£8.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$128, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	75 cts., sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	25 cents
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$500.
Raub	18/10d.	\$6, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$208, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$100.
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$32½, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 145, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$148, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$45.
West Point Building	\$50	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$132, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.75, buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	\$2½, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 33, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 170.
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22½, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$8.25, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, sales & buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$7, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$140, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$47, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215, sellers
Hk. Steam Water- Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$300.
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$15½, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$6	\$13, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$10	\$37, sellers
United Asbestos	12/6	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$4	\$9½, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$10	\$210, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$5	\$1, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$8.90, buyers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$5.
Shanghai and Hong- kong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Canton, Hongkong Ice Cigar Companies—	\$50	\$50.
Alhambra Limited	\$10	\$10, nominal
Phippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$500	\$200.
	\$10	\$10, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report dated 14th April, state:—Business during the week has been quiet, due in a measure to the reaction after the March Settlement, and at closing the market for Indos and Farnhams closes

strong, and for Langkats slightly weaker. The T.T. on London to-day is 2/4½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—Sales are reported in the South \$640, with buyers at this rate. The latest London quotation is 263. Marine Insurance.—The only business reported is in North Chinas at Tls. 67½. Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Hongkong Fires are wanted in the South at \$285 and \$283. Shipping.—The market has remained very steady for Indos during the week, business ruling from Tls. 68 cash, 69½/70 April and 73/70 July. The market closes firm with buyers at 68 for April delivery. Shanghai Tugs. Ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 47, and at 48 and 47½. Docks & Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. The market opened on the 7th with sales for cash at Tls. 151, 154 June and 155 July. On the 8th at 151½ April delivery; on the 11th at 150 July. On the 12th at 145 cash, 150 July and 152 September. On the 13th at 147 and 148, 146, 148 July. We may mention that the sale recorded for July on this day at 146 was only for five shares. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. The market opened at the beginning of the week with sales at Tls. 165 cash and 162½ June. On the 9th a transaction is reported at 160 cash. On the 12th business was done at 150 cash and July. Shares are in considerable demand for forward delivery at Tls. 150. Sugar Cos.—No business reported. Mining.—The only business reported is a sale of Kaipings at Tls. 6 10 bearer scrip. Punjoms. We notice from a Hongkong paper that the Company has decided to cease working these mines at present; the stock is without quotations. Lands.—Shanghai have been placed at Tls. 107 and 108/107 cash. Hongkong Lands are quoted nominal at \$145 in the South. Industrial.—In Cotton Stocks a transaction is reported in Internationals at Tls. 25. Shanghai Gas Co. new shares for delivery on the 30th June are offering at Tls. 100. At this rate the stock shows a return on past dividends of 8½ per cent. to investors. Shanghai Ices have been placed at Tls. 17. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. Business in this stock during the week has been very limited. The market opened on 7th with sales for July at Tls. 305. No further business was reported till the 12th when cash shares were placed at Tls. 292½, and for April delivery at Tls. 292 and 297½. On the 13th cash shares were again placed at 292½ with sales for April at 295. The market closes quiet in this stock with sellers at last quotations. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 50 and 51, buyers offer 50. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Mutual Telephones are wanted at quotations. Dallas Horse Repository shares have been sold at par. Land and Debentures.—No business reported, sellers of all 6 per cent. debentures at par.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 22nd April.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	222½
Credits 4 months' sight	226½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	181½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	43½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	132
Bank, on demand	132½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	132
Bank, on demand	132½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	87½
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	Nom.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	Nom.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	106½
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	2½ p.m.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	2½ p.m.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	63
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

	\$11.20
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GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael

	\$58.75
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SILVER, per oz.

	24½
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FREIGHTS.

Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. General cargo 52/6 per ton of 40

cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 per ton of 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre:—General 48/- net per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 net per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (Overland):—Tea 1½ G\$ cents per lb. gross. To New York (via Suez):—35/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. To Shanghai:—Tea, Tails 1.80 per ton of 13 half-chests. To Shanghai:—General, Tails 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 22nd April.—During the period under review, there has been a good demand for tonnage from Bangkok to Hongkong, resulting in the fixtures of five steamers, 2 being for 5 consecutive trips, with the option of a small quantity of downward cargo, at 26 & 32c. to 30 & 36c. per picul. The demand is likely to continue, as the crop is reported to be a good one. From Saigon to this, 25½c. offering. Early in the fortnight a small carrier obtained 25c., but since then 24c. & 23c. have been accepted for medium sized & 21c. for large carriers. From Saigon to Philippines, last rate paid being 41c. for 2 ports, and there is no further inquiry at the moment. To Japan, 4½c. per picul. From Iloilo to Ningpo, 40c. option Tientsin 75c. per picul; to Hongkong, 23c. per picul. From Newchwang to Canton, 60c. per picul was paid for the Nanyang. She is now loading & expected to sail to-morrow. 75c. is obtainable for prompt boats. Wuhu to Canton, 25 cand. for regular steamers & 23 cand. for outsiders. Coal freights are weak. From Moji to this, \$1.90 last; to Swatow, \$2.25; to Hongkong, \$1.00; to Singapore, \$2.15. Monthly charters: The Nor. S.S. Providence has been re-chartered, terms being kept private. The German S.S. Marrie Jensen has been closed for 9 months, for Northern trade. The following are the settlements:—

Lothian—British steamer, 3,223 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton (part cargo).

Crusader—British steamer, 2,744 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.

Oriel—British steamer, 2,175 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.

Oopack—British steamer, 2,517 tons, Moji to Singapore (part cargo 2,000 tons), \$3 per ton.

Yatshing—British steamer, 1,424 tons, Moji to Swatow, \$2.25 per ton.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,090 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 60 cents per picul.

Breid—Norwegian steamer, 645 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Iloilo to Ningpo, 40 cents, Tientsin, 75 cents per picul.

Ecima—German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Gaea—Norwegian steamer, 624 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

Maharaja—British steamer, 1,046 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Binhuan—French steamer, 985 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Onsang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 91 cents per picul.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Saigon to one or two ports Philippines, 38 and 41 cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Yokohama, 45 cents per picul.

Hopsang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Saigon to Yokohama or Kobe, 45 cents per picul.

Shantung—British steamer, 1,335 tons, Saigon to Yokohama or Kobe, 45 cents per picul.

Taksang—British steamer 977 tons, five trips, Bangkok to Hongkong, 29½ cents and 35½ cents per picul (downward cargo).

Loksang—British steamer, 979 tons, five trips, Bangkok to Hongkong, 29½ and 35½ cents per picul.

Chunsang—British steamer, 1,418 tons, two trips, Bangkok to Hongkong, 26 and 32 cents per picul.

Fooshing—British steamer, 1,423 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 26 and 32 cents per picul.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 27½ and 33½ cents per picul.

Johanne—German steamer, 952 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 36 cents per picul.

Emma Luken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Kwongchowwan to Singapore, 2 cents per picul.

Providence—Norwegian steamer, 693 tons, monthly, 4.4 months, private terms (re-charter).

Marie Jensen—German 1,771 tons, monthly, 9 months, private terms.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—

ARRIVALS.

- 17, An Pho, British str., from Amoy.
 17, Armenia, German str., from Hamburg.
 17, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
 17, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 17, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 17, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
 17, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 17, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 17, Manila, British str., from Antwerp.
 17, Norman Isles, British str., from Moji.
 17, Salazie, French str., from Yokohama.
 17, Tritos, German str., from Swatow.
 17, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 18, Cowrie, British str., from Singapore.
 18, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
 18, Elg, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 18, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 18, Hyson, British str., from Liverpool.
 18, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.
 18, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 18, M. Bacquehem, Aust. str., from Trieste.
 18, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 18, Ness, British str., from Cardiff.
 18, Polynesien, French str., from Marseilles.
 18, Progress, German str., from Tourane.
 18, Sandford, British str., from K'chinotzu.
 18, Shaoshing, British str., from Newchwang.
 18, Trieste, Austrian str., from Shanghai.
 18, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 19, Amara, British str., from Saigon.
 19, Eclipse, British cruiser, from Singapore.
 19, Giang Bee, British str., from Sourabaya.
 19, Hanyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
 19, Nithsdale, British str., from Japan.
 19, Oscar II., Norwegian str., from Moji.
 19, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
 19, Vasco de Gama, Portuge. cr., from Lisbon.
 20, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
 20, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 20, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 20, Hoihow, British str., from Swatow.
 20, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 20, Loksang, British str., from Newchwang.
 20, Lord Ormonde, British str., from Barry.
 20, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 20, Seward, U.S. transport, from Manila.
 20, Siberia, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 20, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 21, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
 21, Foyle, British str., from Moji.
 21, Hongmoh, British str., from Straits.
 21, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 21, Kwangse, British str., from Canton.
 21, Marco Polo, Italian cr., from Singapore.
 21, Taiyuan, British str., from Yokohama.
 21, Yunnan, British str., from Canton.
- April—
 DEPARTURES.
 17, Evandale, British str., for Kobe.
 17, Glenshiel, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 17, M. Struve, German str., for Tamsui.
 17, Ocean, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
 17, Tamaisa, French str., for Haiphong.
 18, Algerine, British sloop, for Yangtze.
 18, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 18, Elg, Norwegian str., for Ningpo.
 18, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 18, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 18, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 18, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 19, An Pho, British str., for Saigon.
 19, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 19, Chunsang, British str., for Bangkok.
 19, Chwnshan, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Gregory Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 19, Hailoong, British str., for Tamsui.
 19, Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 19, Kelvin, British str., for Nagasaki.
 19, Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.
 19, Polynesien, French str., for Shanghai.
 19, Progre a, German str., for Swatow.
 19, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 19, Tsinan, British str., for Kobe.
 20, Armenia, German str., for Shanghai.
 20, Claverley, British str., for Yokohama.
 20, Empress of India, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 20, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.
 20, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 20, Kansu, British str., for Tientsin.

- 20, Manila, British str., for Shanghai.
 00, M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 20, Ness, British str., for Sasebo.
 20, Petrarch, German str., for Chefoo.
 20, Phra C. Klao, German str., for Kobe.
 20, Phranang, German str., for Swatow.
 20, Queen Louise, British str., for Rangoon.
 20, Tritos, German str., for Swatow.
 20, Yiksang, British str., for Swatow.
 21, Auchencrag, British str., for Calcutta.
 21, Binh Thuan, French str., for Saigon.
 21, Hoihow, British str., for Canton.
 21, Hopsang, British str., for Saigon.
 21, Kowloon, German str., for Shanghai.
 21, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
 21, Loksang, British str., for Canton.
 21, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 21, Rainbow, U. S. cruiser, for Manila.
 21, Store Nordiske, Danish str., for a cruise.
 21, Taifu, German str., for Saigon.
 21, Trieste, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 21, Waihora, British str., for Amoy.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Polynesien*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr. Ramkrishna; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Palmer, and Mr. Alate; from Singapore, Mrs. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. Neva, Mrs. Renee Flere, Messrs. Dantzer and child, Gaspard, Daugherty, and Haeri; from Batavia, Mr. Erthfurth; from Saigon, Messrs. Hewet, Williams, Hisahara, Abraham Delwaf, and Frank; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Chevalier and 2 children, Revs. Ceny and Giordano Casagrandi, Messrs. Abakumoff, Hazelaire, Espanet, Panoff, Nakoasin, Perrin, Rochet, Huet, Robt. Kuppler, and Andreval; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Newmarch, Mr. and Mrs. H. Noyes, Mrs. Daniels, Misses Bella Laza and Bidulph and 2 children, Messrs. Tebbins, Curathdas, and Maurice; from Singapore, Dr. Conrad Schondler, Mr. and Miss Grunberg, Messrs. Meyerson, Schwartz, Koenitz, and Garnerio Lorenzo; from Saigon, Mr. Bernadac; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Sanchis, Baron Stotten, Messrs. Scandella, Henner, Ch. Pettit, and Pasitano; from Port Said, Mr. Kawahara; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Cheodor; from Singapore, Mrs. du Cros, Mrs. Cartier, Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, Messrs. Bell and Remhold; from Saigon, Messrs. Boggio and Rolland; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr. Miyasaki, Mrs. A. Towa, and Mr. Morishima.

Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Messrs. Strohm, Ywong, and Yoshida; from Shanghai, Mrs. Kegler, Mrs. J. Mebbeth, Mrs. F. Portter, Mrs. Simons, Messrs. C. Brandt, Kliwe, F. Allen, and Haraguchi, Mr. and Mrs. Numeya; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mrs. Prepatx and infant, Messrs. Kawano and P. Yeton; for Singapore, from Kobe, Messrs. R. Kuyose, G. Kuyose, O. Sasaki, Y. Mayeda, J. Macuzawa, and Zaniguchi; from Shanghai, Mrs. Cheloh, Mrs. Jakeno, Mrs. S. Grimberg, Mrs. Rachel Yakon David, and Mrs. Dayabboy; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. F. Golding and S. Hayes; from Kobe, Mrs. Laplasne; from Shanghai, Mrs. Leunet and infant, Mrs. le Cte. d'Hewael, Mrs. L. Dreyfus, Mrs. Summers and 2 children, Mrs. Eschermann, Mr. and Mrs. Warnisly, Miss Rasch, and Mr. Maresca.

Per *Siberia*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. T. Sheridan, Mrs. G. Malcolm, Messrs. Robert and Gerald Malcolm, Mrs. J. H. Blount, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. King, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Severance, Miss M. Severance, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Clarke, Mrs. E. Young, Mrs. C. Okamura, Mrs. F. Clindening, Capt. C. D. Palmer, Rev. C. J. Hardy, Miss Lottie McHese, Messrs. F. G. Kell, Roger Gorman, R. Greig, Chas. E. Morton, J. F. Quirk, C. S. Hood, T. B. Holiday, T. Inouye, R. A. Brown, P. S. Noon, A. M. Oliveira, Z. M. Smith, C. Mandlebaum, H. Sutherland, A. B. Tanner, T. P. Gaddis, Allan Cameron, W. M. von Buston, T. D. McKay, S. C. Edmondson, F. M. Hickok, James Hamilton, T. B. Townsend, Z. O. Dean, S. Young, and R. B. McKee.

Per *Bengal*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. Burang Ray; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Giles, Messrs. H. Rawcliffe, Dreyfus, A. G. Newcomen, H. Kropff, G. Burdekin, and T. W. Mitchell; for Penang, from Shanghai, Mr. H. Kynard; from Kobe, Mr. R. Mitchell; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Miller.

for Bombay, from Shanghai, Mr. L. Chinaya; for London, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Dodds, Messrs. J. Dodds, Graham, P. Siverton, and G. Pocock; from Shanghai, Mrs. J. P. Donovan, Capt. and Mrs. Bagshawe, Mrs. H. Rawcliffe, Misses Roberts and Szitwary, Messrs. W. H. Barham, A. R. Graves, and C. D. Nicholls; for London via Marseilles, from Shanghai, Mr. R. K. Hynd; for Marseilles, from Shanghai, Rev. and Mrs. Engdahl and 3 children.

DEPARTED.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, Lieut. A. W. Dodd, Comdr. H. Osterhouse, U.S.N., Capt. E. G. Curry, Messrs. Albert Moos, E. B. Shaw, and C. Roth; for Nagasaki, Mrs. L. D. Hargis, Misses Oshimo and Shiyo; for Kobe, Dr. Walter R. Parker, Messrs. H. Krusi and Jno. T. Nichols; for Yokohama, Messrs. Geo. R. Sumners and W. W. Wilson, and Miss Anna Dunlap; for Honolulu, Mrs. K. C. Palmer; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Max Bading, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Edwards, Mrs. L. L. Omsby, Mrs. M. E. Osgood, Mrs. H. Krusi, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Shearer, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Pickard, Mrs. C. L. Sherwood, Mrs. E. E. Jones and son, Mrs. A. W. Hastings, Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Williamson and family, Mrs. Lossius, Mr. and Mrs. Rex W. Wells and infant, Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. McFarland, Hon. Chas. A. Willard, Rev. A. J. Robb and family, Misses Mabel Bansall, E. S. Cole, A. B. Jones, J. B. Torrence, Laura A. Beccroft, B. Moller, F. B. Brustgruen, M. E. Pratt, and L. R. Rogers, Messrs. Roy W. Carruth, A. P. Ferl, E. Mildeberger, A. W. Torkington, J. Polglase, F. A. Hollbaugh, F. G. Waite, Amos Cotting, Edwin B. Smith, and C. H. Fullaway.

Per *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, &c., Mrs. A. Foy, Mr. and Mrs. J. Collis, Rear-Admiral and Mrs. R. F. O. Foote, R.N., Dr. and Mrs. de Magalhaes and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Wand, Mr. and Mrs. Master Teesdale Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Watson, Mrs. D'Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Gunn and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Mardon, Mrs. E. W. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Wiloh, Major and Mrs. Pratt, R.A., Mrs. R. H. Stokes, Lieut. and Mrs. Ashton Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Fawne, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Kennan, Mrs. J. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Swift, Mrs. Alling, Mrs. B. J. Lyson, Mrs. Jackson, Lieut. B. S. Browne, R.G.A., Dr. G. B. Longstaff, Miss D. Longstaff, Eng. Lieut. H. C. Rush, R.N., Dr. W. R. Parker, Lieuts. P. H. Warleigh, R.N., and G. W. Vivian, R.N., Lieut. Col. G. F. Rowcroft, Capt. J. T. Johnson, R.A.M.C., Lieut. Dymock, Dr. Duentzer and son, Judge J. F. Cooper, Capt. Wakefield, R.G.A., Misses E. M. Jackson, A. M. and M. Fullerton, M. Williams, M. E. Houghton, and L. King, Mr. T. N. Wood and Miss Wood, Mr. A. Sheffield and Miss Sheffield, Messrs. A. P. Begg, T. H. Lyle, S. W. Cartwright, G. B. Swann, Hart Buck, B. D. Stowell, F. R. Adams, F. O. Rinker, H. Hewat, E. Sharp, W. M. Cameron, E. W. Rutter, C. Temperley, H. B. Holmes, J. O. Bakken, E. D. Upington, W. G. Parkes, W. S. Lyon, J. O. Bachelor, J. T. Nichols, G. Chandra Sinha, A. Granzella, S. W. Ford, J. Furse, A. S. Piers, P. A. McFarlane, K. Yoshida, W. J. Harrison, A. J. Williams, J. Blake, F. F. Bajues Hewitt, H. E. Cutter, H. Bevis, C. K. Marr, E. L. Glicke, F. E. Hamel, H. F. Lyon, G. H. Drummond, Tsucheya, M. Boyer, A. Iohn, R. B. Manter, J. W. Kemp, J. P. Donnelly, L. E. Tower, J. A. Walker and daughter, J. Fisher, J. F. Reid, C. Miller, Kubota, Sashi, H. Cook, G. P. Tucker, and L. C. Grant.

Per *Polynesien*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Castro, Mr. and Mrs. H. Humphrys, Mrs. Rose Davidson, Revs. P. Favier, J. Tourmien, M. Leykauff, P. Steichen, P. Leon Robert, P. D. Licomte, and Henry, Messrs. E. Denegri, H. R. Kuincar, B. Schepel, V. S. Meyers, M. Denegri, J. C. Tong, E. S. Turner, A. J. da Souza, Geo. Kermdoerfer, P. A. da Souza, C. H. Dickson, Otto Kruger, I. Gonsalves, Vicinte Monge, W. S. Painter, A. Lareim, Gaspard, Danheterty, Le Castro, Luigi Roglioni, and Loini Jacques; for Kobe, Mr. L. S. Ting; for Yokohama, Mrs. F. Reyes, and Mr. G. Patin.

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